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Scapegoating A Hero Marine

How Rich People of Privilege Set Up a Hero Marine From Lawrence

The first ever Latino Secretary of Veterans' Services for the State of Massachusetts was wrongfully blamed for the deaths of 77 elderly veterans at the Old Soldiers Home in Holyoke, Massachusetts. Governor Baker forced Urena to resign in 2020 as the pandemic was still fairly new.

A legislative investigation showed it was Urena who went above and beyond to protect veterans at the home. Now area lawmakers and local veterans are speaking out, demanding accountability and calling for the governor to publicly apologize.

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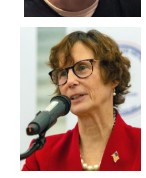

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VALLEY PATRIOT OF THE MONTH

US Navy Veteran Louis McAloon - Lifeguard Duty off the Coast of Vietnam

John Cuddy
VALLEY PATRIOT HERO REPORTER

NORTH ANDOVER - North Andover's Louis McAloon served in the US Navy during the Vietnam War, enlisting shortly after graduating from North Andover High School. He completed Basic Training at the Naval Base Great Lakes with Recruit Company 190. After Basic, he was sent to Naval Air Station Memphis, Tennessee for training as an Aircraft Mechanic.

Unlike the other services, which have Military Occupational Specialties, or "MOS" designations, that indicate the enlisted man's assigned duties, the US Navy and US Coast Guard use "ratings". Louis served as a jet engine mechanic or Aviation Machinist Mate 3rd Class. In the US Navy or Coast Guard, an enlisted man has a rank, Louis was a Petty Officer 3rd Class.

Sailors and Coast Guardsman, also have a rating, Louis was an Aviation Machinist Mate. Sailors also have a pay grade; Louis's paygrade was E-4. The system is not as complicated as it sounds, rank is a level of leadership responsibility, rating is what your technical job is, and paygrade is simply how much money the government owes you each month for your service.

In wartime, the immediate need of the Navy always come first. During the Vietnam War, our Navy needed more helicopter mechanics, much more so than jet mechanics. This need led to the Navy selecting Louis to receive further training on repairing and maintaining helicopters. As a member of Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Eight, Louis embarked on the USS Bennington CV-20. His ship was an Essex Class Carrier. The ship and her crew, served our Nation in World War II, supported the US Space Program, deployed off the coast of Vietnam, and ended her service during the Cold War. Louis was, onboard during, and involved in, the recovery of the Apollo 4 Mission capsule and the ships mission in Vietnam.

When Louis served in the Vietnam War, he, and his ship, were part of the US Navy's Seventh Fleet. The Seventh Fleet spent their deployment conducting air missions in support of the ground Troops fighting in Vietnam.

His Vietnam service was as an aircraft plane captain, in charge of the entire upkeep and maintenance of an assigned aircraft, for Louis, his aircraft was a Sikorsky Sea King Helicopter. The SH-3A Sea King Helicopter usually acted as a "lifeguard" during carrier air operations against the Communists. The helicopter's primary mission was rescuing downed air crews, saving their lives, and preventing them from being captured by enemy forces.

While on the USS Bennington, he saw Bob Hope perform in a USO show,

HERO: PAGE 14

History Will Judge Us Harshly on COVID Response

Dr. Anthony Fauci is the top health official in the country and has shaped public policy on how the United States government responded to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prior to the massive spread of COVID-19 in the U.S., Fauci said that wearing a store-bought mask did nothing to stop the transmission of the deadly virus.

As the pandemic spread, however, Fauci and other "medical experts" changed their tune telling the public that - not only do store bought masks work - but that they should be mandatory.

Now that Dr. Fauci's emails have been released to the public, we know that while Fauci was demanding public mask wearing, he was privately telling colleagues that they were useless to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

He, and other so-called experts, demanded locking down the country, saying that the virus was easily transmissible on common surfaces, leading the entire country to close schools and run around sanitizing everything from groceries to their mail. We now know that none of it was true.

Fauci denied as impossible, the notion that COVID-19 may have come from a lab in China. A lab that we now know was conducting COVID-19 experiments on "humanized mice" to see how easily transmissible COVID-19 would be to humans. How do we know that? It's in Fauci's emails.

As if all that wasn't bad enough, Fauci's emails also show that the National Institute of Health (which he runs) funded the COVID research at the Wuhan lab in China with your federal tax dollars.

Yet, at every step of the way, while millions of Americans were losing their jobs, their families, and their lives due to the lockdowns, Fauci's lies and the lies of the news media continued.

On the local level we learned who the sheep and petty tyrants are among us.

Local officials never used common sense, or questioned "authority". They just complied and demanded that you comply, no matter how unreasonable and illogical each new COVID restriction became. One local mayor admitted chasing kids out of ballfields for playing catch, even though we all knew by then that this type of activity wasn't dangerous.

At no level of government did anyone actually "follow the science" and do what was best for their constituents. Instead, they made decisions based on what would benefit them politically and expand their political power.

These are the facts; the lockdowns killed far more people than the COVID-19 virus. Masks do not work to stop the spread of the virus. Children do not get or do not suffer from contracting the virus. The virus came from a lab in Wuhan China. These are all facts. And they were well known to Dr. Anthony Fauci and the political sycophants who spread his lies for well over a year.

Saddest of all, anyone who tried to speak up and challenge the false COVID narrative was attacked for not blindly following along. The American people should have known better, and history will judge us harshly. ◊

Community Unites to Celebrate Tita Antonopoulos Clean Bill of Health After Battling Breast Cancer

KANE
VALLEY PATRIOT MASCOT

Battle Grounds Coffee Company in Haverhill was a buzz on Saturday, May15th in anticipation of their honored guest Angela Tita Antonopoulos who everyone knows as Tita. Friends, Family, and patrons of Battle Grounds Coffee Company gathered in this Haverhill Hotspot to surprise their friend Tita to celebrate her remission from an aggressive battle with cancer.

Tita swept into the party with an air of confidence and a warm heart pleased to have her "Haverhill Village" around her where she had the opportunity to ring the bell symbolizing entrance back into daily living without the physical and emotional interruption of cancer treatment. Coffee shop owner Dana DeFranco had gone all out to create a trellis of balloons and a welcoming environment for her guest of honor. Standing by was the Haverhill Fire Department who provided the dazzling bell (pictured below) for Tita to achieve her dream of ringing the sound of freedom from cancer into the air.

Dana had this to say when asked about the coordinating and hosting this event, "I knew Tita from community events, but not personally. I followed her cancer journey on social media and admired her strength and courage. When I saw her disappointment when she was told she was unable to ring the ceremonious bell upon on her last treatment I decided I would create one. Battle Grounds was created to celebrate milestones like this; we are a space for our community. So, I contacted the Haverhill Fire Dept, connected with mutual friends who reached out to Tita's friends and family to ensure all those who love Tita were there to witness and encourage her ringing the biggest & prettiest bell Haverhill has to offer!"

Tita was pleased to be interviewed about her recovery journey with the hope that her experience could help and provide support to others battling cancer. Tita explained, "I decided to share my story in hopes that others would get checked. It is so important to know your body. If I did not pay attention to my body, then I would have gotten a different diagnosis.

Tita stated; "When I was first diagnosed on April Fool's Day 2020, I just lost it. I thought that I was having a nightmare and that I needed to wake up. I also decided that I was not going to be anyone's victim. I was not going to be embarrassed that I got cancer. There are so many people that are ashamed. Why? It is not as if I got cancer because of something that I did. I didn't say "oh, why me". Well why not me? I have been through so much in my

life that losing to cancer was just not an option. I kept telling myself that I would see my son graduate High School. I will see him grow up and be an amazing man.

In response to asking Tita how she stayed motivated during her journey, she has this to say. "Well, that was a tough one. I went through all kinds of emotions while having treatment. There were some days that it was really hard to get out of bed. I remembered something that one of the specialists at Dana Farber told me. "You are allowed to be sad for 30 minutes a day, after that it becomes counterproductive". I really kept telling myself that. I am also a single parent to an amazing special needs child that needs me. I had to try to be as positive around him as possible. Some days were so much more challenging than others. I also had a FANTASTIC village around me. My family, my friends and just hearing

TITA: PAGE 11

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The Holyoke Tragedy: Demand Accountability

Rep. Linda Dean Campbell
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

The Special Joint Oversight Committee charged with investigating the COVID-19 related deaths of veterans at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home released a comprehensive report in late May outlining both the immediate and underlying causes of this tragedy.

The committee, which I co-chaired with a fellow veteran, Senator Mike Rush, completed its months-long intense and comprehensive investigation prior to publication of the Globe Spotlight report, as the committee heard and received testimony from several of the individuals cited in the Globe report.

The committee's report includes the testimony of former Secretary Francisco Ureña.

Most crucial was the testimony presented by staff and family members of residents at the Home during our initial hearings in Holyoke. Their courage in coming forward to speak before us cannot be commended enough, as the tragedy was so fresh and raw at that time. This report honors their courage and demands that our work here is followed by legislation to improve Veteran care at our Soldiers' Homes and throughout the Commonwealth. Legislation will be filed very shortly to carry out the committee's recommendations and ensure that a tragedy of this kind never happens again.

The gut-wrenching testimony of family members and staff described the chaos that led to the deaths of Veterans, some who passed without proper medical treatment, and some completely alone. Family members and staff will never recover from what they saw and experienced.

Their courageous testimony led this committee to dig deeper and investigate not only how this tragedy progressed from a COVID-19 outbreak to the death of so many in the short-term – but also how long-term deficiencies allowed it to occur. We are grateful for Attorney Pearlstein's report and his testimony before our committee, however, we found that his report generated more questions than answers.

In our report, we make clear that all

who abdicated responsibility and the great trust placed in them need to be held accountable. We also take a most important additional step and make specific recommendations for governance reforms.

The findings presented in the report describe how current governing structures in place at the time created a perfect storm for this COVID outbreak to become a tragedy. The muddled chain of command created the perfect recipe for an absence of accountability.

The report discusses, among other systemic problems: a Superintendent that was selected based upon political calculations rather than qualifications; a Superintendent that created a toxic working environment long before the COVID outbreak at the Soldiers' Home and who should have been removed well before the crisis hit; a flawed process by which we select (and relieve if necessary) the Superintendent for each Soldiers' Home; insufficient healthcare qualification requirements for the Superintendent position; important management and leadership positions that were not filled, or filled too late; staffing and training deficiencies at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home; a muddled chain of command and insufficiently defined responsibility and accountability between the Holyoke Soldiers' Home and the Governor's office; the need for a Secretary of Veterans Affairs who has a seat in the Governor's cabinet; lack of structures for coordination between the two Soldiers' Homes; and additional findings that point to systemic flaws in governing that must be addressed in order to prevent a similar tragedy from occurring.

My colleagues in the Legislature and I are committed to passing legislation to put into statute the recommendations included in this report. Our Veterans and their families deserve nothing less. This, we believe, is the way to honor those who have sacrificed for our country.

State Representative Linda Dean Campbell represents the cities of Methuen and Haverhill in the State Legislature. She serves as House Chair of the Joint Committee on Advanced IT, the Internet and Cybersecurity and as Chair of the Special Joint Oversight Committee on the Holyoke Soldiers' Home COVID-19 Outbreak. She can be reached at Linda.Campbell@mahouse.gov or (617) 722-2380. ◊

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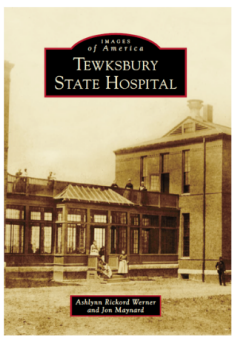

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Baker Scapegoats Hero Marine - Protects Insiders

Tom Duggan
VALLEY PATRIOT PUBLISHER

Veterans and politicians in Massachusetts are demanding answers and an apology for Purple Heart recipient Francisco Urena, the former Secretary of Veterans Services for the Commonwealth, after a legislative report and a Boston Globe expose proved he was wrongly blamed by Governor Charlie Baker for the deaths of 77 veterans at the Old Soldiers Home in Holyoke.

VETERANS OUTRAGED

Air Force Veteran John MacDonald of Chelmsford - spokesman for Veterans Assisting Veterans - says that he and fellow veterans are demanding that Governor Charlie Baker publicly apologize to Urena "and make it right".

MacDonald is circulating an on-line petition.

"He not only destroyed this hero's reputation, but he attacked his honor and worst of all his ability to provide for his family because he is no longer employable thanks to the governor."

"Francisco Urena was 100% used as a scapegoat by Charlie Baker for the deaths of these hero veterans at the Old Soldiers Home. There is nobody who exemplifies what a hero is more than Francisco Urena. This is a guy who not only went off and fought for his country, but then came back and dedicated his life to helping fellow veterans and their families here at home. When he was made Secretary of Veterans Services he didn't come in as a politician with ambitions of climbing the political ladder, he came in as a true public servant."

"I think that's one of the reasons they felt free to go after him. He didn't have a big political network to protect him, and he didn't come into the administration with an ivy league degree or a silver spoon in his mouth."

"He came up the ranks by pulling himself up by his bootstraps and getting things done. He's a Lawrence kid who worked his way up as opposed to the elite ivy league oligarchs who have infected this administration."

MacDonald – a member of the state republican committee - strongly supported Charlie Baker for Governor over the years, and was partly responsible for Baker winning the governorship. He now says that he is disappointed that "Charlie Baker has turned out to be "a typical rotten politician" and has not only called for an apology for Urena but called for the resignation of HHS Secretary Mary Lou Sudders and Baker himself.

MacDonald's petition is available at the Veterans Assisting Veterans Website and Facebook page.

BAKER AND SUDDERS' SLIGHT OF HAND

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker demanded the resignation of Francisco Urena last year at the start of the COVID pandemic, despite the fact that Urena had no legal authority or responsibility for Bennet Walsh. Walsh was the superintendent of the Old Soldiers Home who put COVID patients in with non-COVID patients causing the deaths of 77 veterans at the home.

Governor Baker said he relied on an "investigative report" when he demanded Urena's resignation. But, that report was constructed by political insider, Atty. Mark Pearlstein, who does business with the state and is a long time Baker ally. Pearlstein did not interview any of the people involved in the nursing home deaths and did not ger copies of emails or phone logs showing the chain of events that took place.

Although he was called the "Secretary of Veterans Services", Urena's job was not a cabinet level secretary position. That means Urena had to go through his boss, Health and Human Services Secretary Mary Lou Sudders to get the governor's attention.

Sudders has not been held accountable for any of the deaths at the Old Soldiers' Home, even though her office was directly involved in denying Urena's request for the National Guard to be called in to run the home in the middle of the pandemic. .

Bennet Walsh was hired by Charlie Baker to be superintendent of the Old Soldiers Home - on the recommendation of HHS Secretary, Mary Lou Sudders, and the independent board of directors despite strenuous objections by Urena that he had no nursing home experience. What's more, Urena had recommended a candidate for the superintendent's position with years of nursing home administration experience, but was never even given an interview, while Walsh by contrast, was personally interviewed by Governor Baker.

LEGISLATURE STEPS IN

At a series of eight legislative hearings Chaired by Methuen State Rep. Linda Campbell, Sudders put the blame on Urena for the 77 nursing home deaths, saying that Urena was derelict in his duty to oversee Superintendent Walsh's actions. She also claimed that Urena refused Walsh's request for the National Guard to staff the home when the majority of nurses called in sick due to COVID concerns.

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker with Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, former Secretary of Veterans Services Francisco Urena, and Methuen State Rep. Linda Dean Campbell back in 2019. (Courtesy photograph)

But testimony and documents presented at those legislative hearings, directly contradicted Sudders testimony, showing that Urena feverishly tried to get members of the Baker Administration to call in the Guard, and that his efforts were thwarted by the administration every step of the way ... all the while veterans were dying daily from the inappropriate actions of nursing home officials.

The legislative report exonerated Urena of being responsible for the nursing home deaths. The report cited systemic problems for those deaths and poor management by those running the nursing home.

The report states:

"Val Liptak, who was appointed by Secretary Sudders to step into the chaos and stabilize the situation, stated that when she and her team arrived "none of us have ever seen anything like this."

The 1-North unit "looked like a war zone." Incident Commander Lisa Colombo stated this "hot" unit had Veterans "crammed in on top of each other," some 91 of whom "were clearly dying." There were "chairs of people lined up, some were clothed, some unclothed, some were wearing masks, some weren't."

26 The immediate causes of the tragedy were the result of many systemic governance failures that were laid bare and contributed directly and substantially to the tragedy. Key immediate causes included: possible delays in responding to calls for additional assistance and support from the National Guard; understaffing during the crisis and as it escalated; COVID-19 reporting structures and requirements that were not clearly defined by the Baker Administration; the absence of the Medical Director; a lack of implementation of infection 25 Pearlstein, Mark. The COVID-19 Outbreak at the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke: An Independent Investigation Conducted for the Governor of Massachusetts, p. 7, June 23, 2020. 26 Id, pp. 90-91.12 control protocols; and the inability for clinical staff to track patients' conditions due to lack of adequate record keeping and the absence of electronic medical records."

The legislative report did not hold Urena responsible for any of the deaths.

Lawrence State Rep. Frank Moran said that the treatment of Urena by the governor was unjust.

"Last year's horrific tragedy was the result of gross mismanagement during a time of global crisis, and I sincerely hope that the families of those veterans are given the clarity that they so justly deserve."

"What took place at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home last year is a tragedy beyond words that should never have been allowed to happen."

"Given the scope and severity of this incident, I believe that additional measures should have been taken to ensure that Secretary Urena was afforded fair due process before being asked to resign from his position."

"There should have been an extensive, transparent process by which Secretary Urena was deemed to be irrefutably at fault for the loss of some of our most vulnerable citizens. Without this process being conducted in such a manner, I do not believe that one individual should be solely liable for what happened and do not consider this course of action to be fair or just."

FORMER BOSS DEFENDS URENA

A Boston Globe Spotlight report also showed that it was higher ups in the Baker Administration who dragged their feet calling in the National Guard while it was Urena who requested the National Guard be brought in. The report shows that Urena followed up several times with administration officials asking why it hadn't yet been done, even as the death count reached six dead veterans.

That is what is most shocking," said former Lawrence Mayor Michael Sullivan – a Republican - who hired Urena as the Veterans Services Officer for his city back in 2007.

Sullivan said he hired Urena because he had never seen anyone in his life who was more dedicated to his community and helping veterans after they came home.

"Here was a guy who lived and breathed helping veterans, a guy who still has shrapnel in his face from his service overseas, and desperately trying to get the administration's attention to call in the guard, and he wasn't even legally required to do that. But he did it. He did it because that's who Francisco is. And the thanks he got was that they blamed

URENA: PAGE 15

State Representative Frank A. Moran Hosts Clean-Up of Bourgoin Square Park with Groundwork Lawrence

BOSTON – State Representative Frank A. Moran (D – Lawrence) hosted a community clean-up of Bourgoin Square Park in coordination with Groundwork Lawrence on Saturday, May 15 to beautify and protect the City of Lawrence's outdoor spaces.

Representative Moran was joined by co-hosts Mayor Kendrys Vasquez, City Councilor Jeovanny Rodriguez, State Senator Barry Finegold, and the Lawrence Police Department – as well as several upstanding residents who dedicated their day to supporting this effort.

"Bourgoin Square Park serves many families living in the City of Lawrence and as we begin the summer months, it is very important that our youth have a safe and clean place that they can be proud of," said Representative Moran. "I would like to thank Groundwork Lawrence for their incredible partnership and look forward to working with the city, our state delegation, and the community in being proactive in doing our part to make our city cleaner for all."

This clean-up was the third such event recently hosted by Representative Moran and local organizations to recognize the importance of environmental sustainability and community engagement.

Sign the Petition to Stop Attorneys Who Commit Wrongdoings in Court

By Gracemarie and Joyce Tomaselli

Please SIGN the Change.Org Petition stop judges in MA from granting "absolute or qualified immunity" to attorneys who lie in court so that they win, and YOU lose!

Go to the Facebook Page: 'An $80 Million Lie: Sisters Discover Sewer Project 100% Paid With Grants' and click on our online Change.Org

PETITION STOP JUDGES FROM GRANTING "IMMUNITY" TO ATTYS WHO COMMIT WRONGDOINGS IN COURT

There is no logical reason to allow lawyers to be deceitful in a court and then give those deceitful lawyers the "award" of immunity. It is the people of Massachusetts who deserve the protection from them!

With the help of Senator Diana DiZoglio we filed Senate Bill No. S.1017 "An Act to strengthen rules governing attorney conduct; penalties for misconduct.' https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S1017/Bills/Joint

YOUR HELP is needed to get it passed. Massachusetts needs a remedy for people harmed in the court system by attorneys who lie to judges and conceal documents so that they can win cases.

Please contact your Senators and Representatives and ask them to pass this bill. Our hope is that this legislation will help other Massachusetts residents to NOT to go through the many years of torment that we have gone through in our quest for justice.

We need to stop attorney immunity because, if it happened to us, it could certainly happen to you! Attorneys should not be above the law! They must never be given absolute or qualified immunity for their wrongdoings!

Please sign and share our petition with your friends and family. Thank you.

WEATHER 101 with AL KAPRIELIAN

The Beginning of Summer

Welcome to June which will officially begin the summer season with the summer solstice occurring on June 20th.

This month will feature the longest days and shortest nights of the year. June 1st is the start of the 2021 hurricane season. The hurricane season runs through November with the last day on November 30th.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is predicting another above average hurricane season. NOAA is predicting 13-20 named storms, storms with winds of 39 miles per hour or greater.

The average for the number of storms is 14. They are predicting 6-10 hurricanes with winds of 74 miles per hour and greater. The average is 7 hurricanes. They are predicting 3-5 major hurricanes with winds of 110 miles per hour and greater. In terms of intensity there are 5 categories that give us how intense the hurricanes are.

Category 1 is the least strong while the strongest, most destructive hurricane is a category 5 with winds of 157 miles per hour and greater. The reasons for another above average hurricane season are the following: warmer than normal ocean waters, hurricanes form over ocean waters that are 80 degrees and higher, weaker Atlantic trade winds and third, the presence of the African monsoon. We have already had a named storm this year.

Tropical storm Ana developed near Bermuda and stayed well out to sea in the Atlantic Ocean before weakening.

Recapping May we started with some chilly weather with the jet stream bringing some chilly air down from Canada. As we approached the middle of May, after May 10th, a large upper-level high pressure system (heat dome) developed over the central United States.

With time we saw this upper-level high expand to the east bringing the very warm to hot and more humid air into our region during the latter half of the week of May 17th.

Boston reached 89 degrees on May 22nd. The first 90-degree day for Boston this year was on May 26th when Boston reached 92 degrees. Manchester New Hampshire reached 90 degrees for the first time this year on May 22nd when they reached 91 degrees. Manchester reached 94 degrees on May 26th.

The coolest areas during the week of May 17th were the New England South Coast especially Cape Cod and the Islands. During the week of May 17th, it felt more like weather we would get in July rather than May.

This was due to the strength of the upper-level high pressure system. It seems each year we go from wearing heavier jackets to shorts and tee shirts. This year was no exception. However, this hot weather did not last for the rest of May.

A big change occurred in our weather pattern unfortunately as we approached the long Memorial Day weekend. The last warm day in May was on the 27th. Then some record cold high temperatures occurred on Saturday and Sunday May 29th and 30th. It felt more like weather we would see in March, not the end of May. What drastic extremes!!

From shorts and tee shirts back to jackets and raincoats. Some new record low high temperatures were as follows: Nashua only reached 47 degrees on May 29th. The old record low high temperature was 49 degrees in 2009. Manchester New Hampshire only reached 49 degrees on

May 29th. The old record low high temperature was 54 degrees set way back in 1887. Concord New Hampshire only reached 49 degrees on May 29th; however, this fell short of a new record low high temperature.

The old record low high temperature for Concord, New Hampshire was 45 degrees in 1917. In addition to this abnormally cold weather for late May we also got some much-needed beneficial rain!!

There were two coastal low-pressure systems that gave us a nice soaking rainfall. Storm number 1 brought steady soaking rain late Friday May 28th into early Saturday May 29th. Then we saw a lull in the rain for much of the rest of Saturday, Saturday night into Sunday morning as we were in between the two low pressure systems.

Storm 1 was more potent and caused some strong wind gusts over Cape Cod & the Islands Friday night into Saturday as they were under a Wind Advisory. The winds were strong enough for some downed trees and power lines. Both Mashpee and Dennis on Cape Cod had downed trees and power lines. Storm 2 brought more rain to New England by midday Sunday which continued into early Memorial Day morning. This storm moved away, and we saw blues skies and sunshine return late on Memorial Day.

What a welcome sight! Rain fall totals exceeded 2 and 3 inches in many areas.

Some areas like Rockport, Wellesley, and Plymouth, MA got over 4 inches of rain. Boston got 1.08 inches of rain on Saturday May 29th. They also got 1.08 inches of rain on Sunday May 30th. This was the most rainfall for Boston in a 2-day period since 2012. The airmass was even cold enough for some wet snow to fall in Toronto, Canada. It did not stick to the ground.

Just days before, Toronto had a high temperature of 91 degrees. The temperatures got back to above 60 degrees on Memorial Day which was an improvement over the previous two days. Will the Bermuda high pressure system in the upper atmosphere off the east coast return and strengthen to give us a hot June??? Stay tuned to next month's article to find out. In the meantime, enjoy the end of spring and stay safe!!! ◊

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Methuen, North Andover See Reduction in Crime

Eric Spagnoli
VALLEY PATRIOT REPORTER

While crime has increased across the country in the last year – particularly violent crime – The Valley Patriot has found that almost all categories of crime have decreased in the Merrimack Valley over the last two years. Last month we reported that almost all categories of crime decreased in the last two years in the cities of Haverhill and Lawrence. This month, we look at the crime numbers in the Town of North Andover and the City of Methuen.

METHUEN

Despite the turmoil in the Methuen Police Department in the last few years – including political interference in the department - the Methuen Police Department has reported a 24% reduction in calls for service from 2019 to 2020. The leading reasons for calls to the Methuen Police include medical assistance, disturbances, and motor vehicle stops.

Calls for Part 1 crimes (crimes used by the FBI to calculate the crime index and crime rate) have shown a decrease include murder, robbery, and burglary. Meanwhile, calls involving motor vehicle theft and aggravated assault have both increased.

In regard to quality-of-life calls to police, the number of overdoses has decreased by 32%, and the number of overdose deaths has gone down from 12 in 2019 to 9 in 2020.

Despite this improvement, however, the number of calls involving mental health has gone up by 44%. In 2021, the number of mental health calls continues to rise, as the police department has received over half of its 2020 number of calls already.

In an interview with The Valley Patriot regarding the numbers of quality-of-life calls for service, City Councilor Eunice Zeigler says that the increased need for mental health services is partly attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic. She also discussed the efforts the city has made and continues to make in response to this dilemma and what she believes is needed to alleviate it.

"We've had conversations on what we can do to better support our families who may need access to mental health services. The mayor's office has had a number of mental health professionals bringing it to the forefront through community-wide newsletters. The city council also has a substance abuse and mental health committee."

Despite the city council's awareness of this problem and the resources already available to Methuen residents, Zeigler noted that more action and funding is needed to properly combat this growing concern.

"One of the things we can bring more focus to as a commonwealth is not only additional funding, but additional education, as well. We have a department within the district that acts as a resource for students who are in need of mental health services."

In addition to the apparent mental health crisis, there appears to be a major concern regarding identity theft in the city. MPD has reported that the number of calls for identity theft has gone up from 52 to 416, a 700% increase. In addition, the number of calls for identity theft in 2021 (as of May 4th) stands at 52 already.

Zeigler acknowledged the relation between identity theft reports and the pandemic, discussed the city's efforts to address the problem, and also assured that this issue is not unique to Methuen.

"{Identity theft] is something that's been happening across the country.

"The majority of those cases are part of unemployment scams. Back in July of 2020, the Department of Unemployment Assistance noticed that there were nationwide unemployment scams due to a data breach. Probably 90% of our impersonation complaints were tied in with that. We were taking 10-15 calls per day regarding that issue."

North Andover Police Lt. Detective E.J. Foulds

Because of the pandemic, we need to be more connected digitally, but as a result, hacking has gone up.

"The city has conducted a few seminars, especially for elderly people, helping residents to recognize online scams," continued Zeigler. "It's something we're going to have to continue to watch across the state and country."

Overall, Zeigler remains optimistic about the future of Methuen and emphasized the resilience of the community and its ability to come together, despite the challenging year that 2020 brought many residents.

"One of the beautiful things that came out of the pandemic is that people were more connected. We all had to reconcile with the restrictions that were imposed to try to keep us safe. It really created a sense of community."

At Large City Councilor D.J. Beauregard told the Valley Patriot that the decrease in most crime numbers is due to the COVID pandemic.

"I think the Methuen Police Department has done a tremendous job combating the opioid crisis through increased engagement with the community. However, there is still much more work to be done, Beauregard said.

"I would say that the steep drop in calls for service between 2019 and 2020 can probably be attributed to the pandemic. A report from MarketWatch found that overall, crime fell 23 percent during the first month of the COVID-19 lockdown and has since remained lower than usual. In terms of the decline in overdose deaths, this is likely attributable to the increased use of naloxone, (NARCAN) a lifesaving medication that is widely used by emergency medical personnel and other first responders to prevent opioid overdose deaths. According to a recent study, a naloxone distribution program in Massachusetts reduced opioid overdose deaths, without increasing opioid use, by an estimated 11 percent."

At Large Councilor Nick DiZoglio told The Valley Patriot that part of the reason for the increase in identity theft and electronic crimes were due to a hacking of parts of the city's computer systems last year.

We contacted Randy Haggar of The Methuen Police Department but, he refused to comment or get back to us to discuss the reasons for Methuen's crime rate.

North Andover

North Andover has seen an overall increase in crime from 2019 to 2020. The total number of Group A offenses has gone up from 406 to 629, a 36% increase. However, most of this increase can be attributed to only one category of crime: impersonation. There have been 294 reports of impersonation in 2020, none of which have been cleared by the police department.

Impersonation (likely associated with cybercrime/fraud) has made up for 46% of North Andover's reported crime in 2020. Excluding this staggering statistic, crime rates would appear to have stayed the same or even dropped slightly from 2019 to 2020.

Similar to Methuen's soaring increase in identity theft, this wild shift indicates a wave of illegal cyber activity in the Valley, likely a result of the pandemic's pushing criminals towards digital means.

Other than the impersonation issue, the crime numbers in North Andover have remained steady. There has only been one additional report of vandalism (33 to 34) and simple assault (43 to 44) in 2020.

Additionally, 2020 marks the second year in a row that North Andover has seen zero reported cases of murder or manslaughter.

When asked if the COVID-19 pandemic affected the crime rate in North Andover, Detective Lieutenant E.J. Foulds said that some crimes were affected.

"We've seen an uptick in crimes that involve some type of substance abuse and/or mental health, as well as domestic violence issues, due to the fact that people have been cooped up. Some of those services weren't readily available. We also saw a huge decline in larceny."

There were 294 reports of impersonation in North Andover in 2020, (identity theft) none of which have been cleared by the police department.

We asked Foulds why he thinks this number has increased, and why he believes there has been an apparent difficulty in clearing these reported crimes?

"The majority of those cases are part of unemployment scams. Back in July of 2020, the Department of Unemployment Assistance noticed that there were nationwide unemployment scams due to a data breach. Probably 90% of our impersonation complaints were tied in with that. We were taking 10-15 calls per day regarding that issue."

"We try to get out information on social media. Most people become aware of it themselves, but the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has set up a reporting portal because there were so many claims.

Foulds said that the biggest piece of advice he can give to North Andover residents to help people recognize scams and identity theft is to Monitor your credit score.

Foulds said that the North Andover Police take the issue of identity theft and on-line scams very seriously. "The town of North Andover does several information sessions per year, where we walk through different case scenarios

CRIME: PAGE 11

TOM DUGGAN'S NOTEBOOK

LOCAL GUY MAKING GOOD! Methuen's own Georges Niang (right) who plays for the Utah Jazz seen here with with life long friend Michael Gorman of Methuen before game four of the first round of Playoffs in Salt Lake City, Utah. We are all rooting for Georges to win the championship this month.

EAGLE TRIBUNE'S DERELICTION OF DUTY

Early last year, at the beginning of the COVID Pandemic, The Eagle Tribune wrote an editorial called "Dereliction of Duty" blaming Lawrence native Francisco Urena (Then the Secretary of Veterans Services) for the deaths of 77 residents of the Old Soldiers Home in Holyoke. They did this after Charlie Baker commissioned a bogus "investigation" by Atty. Mark Pearlstein which exonerated Baker, his cabinet, and HHS Secretary Mary Lou Sudders.

Did the Eagle Tribune - with all their reporters on staff - do any research on this "investigative report" to learn that Pearlstein is a political hack making tons of money on the Baker Administration? NO! Did they verify any of the findings in that so-called "report"? NO. They simply read the report and then shamelessly congratulated Governor Baker for forcing Francisco to resign.

So, it was no surprise when the Boston Globe ... NOT the Eagle Tribune ... did their due diligence, investigated the report that blamed Urena, and then blew the lid off the scandal, revealing that Francisco Urena had no part in the deaths of veterans in Holyoke. In-fact, they revealed that Urena was the only one trying to advocate for the veterans in that home.

I would call that a "dereliction of duty" on the part of the Eagle Tribune - Urena's hometown newspaper - for not doing their jobs and investigating this issue before taking a stand on their editorial pages. Not only does Charlie Baker owe Francisco Urena an apology for wrongly blaming him, the Eagle Tribune owes him an apology for not giving him the benefit of the doubt and investigating the matter the way ... REPORTERS .... are supposed to.

BARRY FINEGOLD ON THE SIDELINES - AS ALWAYS

While putting together this month's front-page story on the scapegoating of Francisco Urena, I called several elected officials in the Merrimack Valley who know and have always worked well with Urena. What I asked for was a comment or two about the situation and asked each official if Governor Baker should apologize for setting up Urena. But, when I contacted State Senator Barry Finegold he did what Barry always does when anything is even mildly controversial, he refused to comment and ran away, choosing instead to sit on the sidelines and allow a hero marine to flounder with no support from the state senator. I hope Francisco remembers that when his good name is restored.

STATE AUDITOR SUZANNE BUMP WILL NOT SEEK REELECTION

One of my favorite elected officials, State Auditor Suzanne Bump has announced she is not seeking another term for the auditor's office. Bump's term ends next year. In the time she has been the state auditor, Suzanne Bump has held government officials accountable and uncovered millions if not billions of dollars in waste, fraud, and abuse in state agencies and local municipalities. While other Democrats were running around with their fake narrative that welfare fraud does not exist, Bump proved them wrong when she audited the welfare department and found millions of dollars in EBT cash cards had been disbursed with no accountability whatsoever. And when (then) Governor Deval Patrick called her a liar on the front pages of the Boston Globe, Bump doubled down, had an independent firm do another audit of the welfare department, and found even more fraud, waste, and abuse. I am going to miss Suzanne. She may be a left-wing ideologue but she never let her politics get in the way of doing her job. Because of her work there are more state services being given out to needy families and children. Because of her work, state agencies that were wasting and outright stealing tax money were held accountable.

DIANA DIZOGLIO TO RUN FOR STATE AUDITOR

She served two terms as a State Representative, two terms as a State Senator and now political superstar Diana DiZoglio is planning a run to replace State Auditor Suzanne Bump.

DiZoglio announced on her Facebook page this week that she is now in full gear to seek state office, abandoning her state senate seat in the Merrimack Valley.

This will undoubtedly lead to a large number of candidates seeking to replace DiZoglio in the State Senate. Some possible candidates to replace DiZoglio are: State Rep. Linda Dean Campbell, former senate candidate Shaun Toohey, Chamber of Commerce president Joe Bevilacqua, Amesbury State Rep. Jim Kelcourse, Methuen City Councilor Jim McCarty, former Methuen Mayor Jim Jajuga, Haverhill School Committeeman Scott Wood, Former Essex County Sheriff Frank Cousins, and Haverhill Mayor Jim Fiorentini.

Regardless of whoever jumps into this race it sure will be a crowded field in the 2023 state primary.

GOVERNOR'S COUNCILOR EILEEN DUFF WILL ALSO RUN FOR AUDITOR

She has been a radically independent member of the Governor's Council and has a great name in Essex County as the most responsive person on the council. Now, Eileen Duff is seeking to replace Suzanne Bump as the state auditor. Duff is scrappy and never afraid to take on controversy. She will be a force to be reckoned with on the campaign trail as she is tireless at election time.

PERRY'S EASY SAIL

Anyone who follows local politics in Methuen knows full well that Mayor Neil Perry has the good will of the voters on his side and is very popular for the way he has handled the city's finances. Despite his glaring personal failures, he is and has been an exceptional mayor. Perry is up for reelection this year and looks like he will sail into a second (and final) term as mayor without any real opposition. Most insiders we talked to said they would not run against Perry because he is "too well liked". It's clear

NOTEBOOK: NEXT PAGE

WINSTON SAYS!

Even I knew that Francisco Urena was innocent, and I'm a freaking dog!

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NOTEBOOK: FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

that if anyone does run again Perry in November they will fail miserably. But, this is a double-edged sword for Neil. Since he has already announced on the Paying Attention! Podcast that he will not seek a third term if he wins this year - political hacks are already organizing to run for the city's top seat in city hall for 2023. That also means that in the minds of the political insiders, Perry is a lame duck the second he is reelected this year.

Once the November elections are over, look for city councilors who have kissed Perry's ass and pretended to be his friend to start attacking Perry and stand in the way of everything he tries to accomplish, so that they can gin up campaign issues to run on in 2023. In politics, those who are your friends or allies today will be your biggest adversaries or enemies the second they think your political power is waning. Once they don't need you anymore they stab you in the back. Remember where you heard it first. Look for Perry's second term to be tumultuous and filled with conflict.

LAWRENCE'S MAYORAL RACE HEATS UP

With Dan Rivera bailing on the City of Lawrence before the end of his term, the race for mayor this fall is starting to garner a lot of attention. Lawrence political activist Vilma Martinez-Dominguez (formerly Vilma Lora) is raising a ton of money and has the backing of former mayor Dan Rivera and is the favorite candidate of the political insiders. Also seeking the mayor's job is At-Large City Councilor Brian DePena who is perhaps the most popular politician in the city and by far the most likable. Kendrys Vasquez who is now the acting mayor - filling out the term of Dan Rivera – has announced he is running for mayor this year even though he promised he would not run if he was appointed acting mayor. Then there's the possible candidacy of former State Rep. and former Mayor Willie Lantigua. If he runs and wins Lantigua can only serve one term as Lawrence has a two term for life, term limit in place.

Conventional wisdom says that Vilma and DePena are the favorites going into the September primary where the top two candidates will go on to a November final election. Since a large portion of Kendrys Vasquez's political support has always come from Dan Rivera supporters (and Rivera is endorsing Vilma), it's easy to see how Vasquez and Vilma will split the vote among Rivera loyalists, giving DePena a clear shot to win the primary. After all, DePena has been the top vote-getter as a city-wide councilor over the last four elections and it is hard to find anyone in politics who doesn't like him. But, this IS Lawrence, and anything can happen, especially if Willie Lantigua enters the race and takes Dominican votes away from DePena. One thing for sure, every campaign I have talked to thinks that the "white vote" may make the difference in this race.

WILL HE STAY OR WILL HE GO, NOW - Hero Lawrence Police Officer Mike Simard is in his first term as a Methuen City Councilor. Simard whispered into the political rumor mill months ago that he would not be running again for council. He also cancelled his web service for his campaign website at the beginning of this year leading people to believe he wasn't going to run again. But, we learned this past week that it was all sleight of hand when Simard took out nomination papers to seek a second term. I guess it didn't take long for this hero cop to learn the ropes of dirty politics and public deception. I'm just surprised he didn't declare that he was running for mayor. Maybe in two years he will, he certainly has a good shot at the top seat in Methuen with Neil Perry already announcing he will not seek another term after this year's election.

◊ COMMUNITY EVENTS ◊

NMYO SYMPHONIC SUMMER One-Week Music Camp at the Gould Barn in Topsfield.

IPSWICH, MA - Join the Northeast Massachusetts Youth Orchestras (NMYO) for its first-ever summer music camp the week of June 28 – July 2, 2021 at the Gould Barn, Topsfield, MA.

Youth musicians, with at least two years of instrument study with a private teacher, can register for NMYO's Symphonic Summer Music Camp. Better yet – no auditions are required! Musicians will play music in small, socially distanced groups both in the open-air barn and under canopies on the grounds. Strict COVID protocols will be followed.

Winds, brass and percussion musicians meet from 9:00-11:30am. They will play in small groups as well as in one larger Wind Ensemble.

String musicians who are at the end of Suzuki Book 1 or equivalent through Book 3 will meet as a small string ensemble from 12:30-2:30pm. More advanced string players, at the Suzuki Book 4 level or higher, will meet from 2-5pm. These musicians will play in both a small chamber music group and a larger string ensemble.

Find out more and register for camp no later than May 31, 2021 on NMYO's website at nmyo.org. You can also email info@nmyo.org or phone Executive Director Terri Murphy at 978-309-9833 for more information.

REP. TRAM NGUYEN AWARDED CARIG BEAR AWARD

On Friday, May 14th, the Providers' Council presented State Representative Tram Nguyen (D-Andover) with their prestigious Caring Bear Award for commitment and service to the human service sector. The award was presented during the Council's Tenth Annual Caring Force Rally, during which over 800 members advocated for legislation that would reduce student loan debt, and a bill that would require equitable state reimbursement for human service providers.

Caring Force Committee Chair Lydia Todd praised Rep. Nguyen as a "huge proponent of measures to deal with racial and economic justice." The Council also presented a Caring Bear award to State Senator Eric Lesser (D-Longmeadow) for his efforts on behalf of health and human services workers.

TICKETS ON SALE NOW FOR MAUDSLAY ARTS CENTER CONCERTS

The Maudslay Arts Center is reopening for the 2021 Summer Concert Series as well as weddings and special events.

It will be limited to four Sunday afternoon performances at 2 p.m. in August, but those afternoons will be jam-packed with talent. Starting the great line-up of performers will be The New Black Eagle Jazz Band as they begin their 50th anniversary year.

They will perform on Sunday, Aug 8th., followed by MAC favorites The Bobby Keyes Trio on Aug. 15th, multi-styled vocalist/pianist Amanda Carr on Aug. 22nd, and jazz vocalist Donna Byrne on Aug. 29th.

Maudslay Arts Center is located at 95 Curzon Mill Road, Maudslay State Park, Newburyport MA 01950. The concerts are held rain or shine, All Covid-19 protocols will be followed to keep our patrons and musicians safe. To abide by pandemic restrictions no refreshments will be sold this season, but concertgoers should feel free to bring their own.

For lawn seating, patrons should bring their own chairs or blankets. Sunday afternoon concert tickets cost $20, with children ages 12 and under admitted free.

For the complete summer schedule, to purchase tickets online, or for further information about the performers, visit the MAC website at www.maudslayartscenter.org. To schedule a visit, please contact Costello at 978-857-0677.

ESSEX HERITAGE ANNOUNCES 2021 PARTNERSHIP GRANTS

The Essex National Heritage Commission (Essex Heritage), announced the 2021 Essex Heritage Partnership Grant Program recipients at the Commission's Spring Annual Meeting on April 22nd. Over the next year, the 12 grant recipients will be working to implement a diverse range of educational, interpretive, and preservation projects throughout Boston's North Shore and the Merrimack Valley. This year, Essex Heritage added "Access and Inclusion" as a fourth category, to assist in keeping our unique and amazing resources accessible to all.

2021 Essex Heritage Partnership Grant Recipients:

AMESBURY Carriage Museum- The Amesbury Carriage Museum will develop a framework for an ongoing series of walking tours designed to connect our audience to the nearby built environment. Grant funds will cover consultant fees needed to create a new walking tour and establish a template to guide the development of additional tours.

AMESBURY Improvement Association - Amesbury Improvement Association will create interpretive signage mounted on an attractive kiosk addressing historical, cultural, and natural history context for Deer Island, a city-owned park in the Merrimack River. The project will add attractive split rail fencing to the parking lot perimeter and an entry sign from the Chain Bridge into the park.

GROVELAND -Friends of Veasey Park will carry out the Native Plant and Tree Project in an effort to promote sustainability and conservation while also creating a more usable, educational, and accessible public green space for the community. Veasey Memorial Park is a self-sustaining town park with a historical building and 48 acres of conservation land which serves over 6,000 people a year for both private and public programs and events, as well as several thousand more for passive outdoor recreation such as hiking and kayaking.

METHUEN - Historical Society, Inc. - Methuen Historical Society's Meeting House Hill Cemetery and Village Burying Ground Project includes the inventory, mapping, and restoration of these two cemeteries along with the documentation and presentation of this information to the Methuen community. Meeting House Hill Cemetery was the site of the first Methuen meeting house (built in 1728) and is the only surviving major element of the original town center location. The Village Burying Ground was founded in 1832 and was part of a significant shift in the town center from the Meeting House Hill area toward the industrial and commercial sites of the Spicket River Falls. Late in the 19th century, wealthy industrialist Edward Searles built the 8-foot granite wall on the sides facing his estate and Mrs. Edward F. Searles was buried in the old burying ground. Her mausoleum was designed by Searles architect Henry Vaughan. Both cemeteries were added to the National Register of Historic Sites in 1984.

NEWBURY Parker River Clean Water Association - PRCWA maintains an extensive five trail system. By putting in one to two beaver deceivers the wetlands will be environmentally balanced and yet protect the aquatic animals & birds and the overall habitat without flooding the bike trail, therefore avoiding damaging public roads and adjacent commercial establishments. By installing a relatively low-cost beaver deceiver, the beavers can build their dams, maintain a stable environment but the culverts will remain open and the water on the pond will be kept at a controllable level. Cyclists and Pedestrians will be able to enjoy the rich biodiversity so close to nature and bike trails, and Essex County taxpayers

NOTEBOOK: PAGE 20

WILLS & TRUSTS ARE WHAT WE DO!!!

Every day when we walk out the door, there is always the possibility that it may be our "last" time. You wouldn't walk out the door without your wallet; if you fail to plan for your Family's future, that's exactly what you may be doing.

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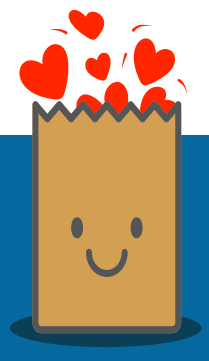

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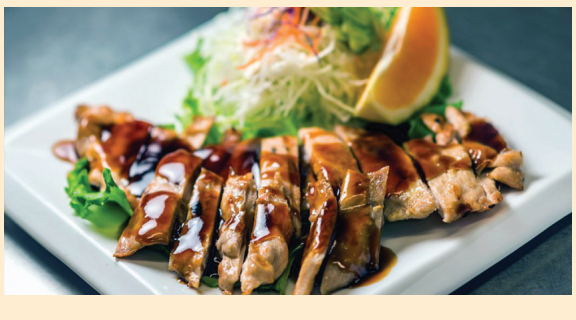

Mon-Thurs: 11am - 10pm
Fri-Sat: 11am - 11:30pm
Sunday: 12noon - 9:30pm

SUE PIAZZA'S BOOK CORNER

A Thursday Murder Club Mystery Series, Book 1

© 2020 by Richard Osman
Published by: Viking Books
Genre: Fiction/Mystery
Bookmarkers: 1 of 5

Seniors in a retirement village in England form their own club amongst the various groups the facility organizes for their enjoyment and distraction. Several of the residents, Ibrahim, Elizabeth (the leader), Ron, Joyce, and to a lesser extent Bernard, meet every Thursday. The Thursday Murder Club normally investigates and rehashes old cases but as luck would have it, a murder, the victim being one of the facility's developers, gives these older but none less sharp-witted people a current case to solve.

The police, under Chris Hudson, oversee the case. Donna, a policewoman, who had recently given a talk at the community and became friendly with the members of the Thursday club, is assigned to the case. Elizabeth's finagling gets this done. Donna's friendship with the seniors has her share facts with them that they would never have known had it not been for her.

The first murder leads to the untimely death of another person, by fentanyl poisoning. Despite being committed in broad daylight and witnessed by numerous people, no one knows how or who perpetrated the murder.

One of the first problems I had with this book occurs now. The writer has the second victim do something completely out of character. I had to re-read the section a couple times because I thought I'd made a mistake somewhere in my reading. Not so. Having a character do something that goes against everything we have seen the character do and say is unacceptable. This is a mistake that even a novice writer does not make.

At around the three quarters mark the book becomes confusing. Numerous murders suddenly pop-up as do never before mentioned characters. If you read this book, which I would strongly suggest you not do as there are hundreds of better written books to occupy your time with, but, if you do not head my suggestion and do read this, I would strongly suggest that you keep a murder/character chart. I had to do this for the last third of the book all the while becoming increasingly annoyed at the author for throwing in more murders and characters. Really confusing, and unnecessary.

The style of writing reminded me of a play. Several of the chapters begin in the first person, present. "The morning sun is rising …" Only the beginning of chapters. Not sure why since it adds nothing to the story. Each scene, no matter its length, is made into a chapter. One chapter is a page long while another is six pages. Joyce keeps a diary. Every one of her entries also becomes its own chapter.

This story takes place in England and the language used is English, not American. If you read this book, I would suggest using a kindle or a similar device so you can consult the English (not American) dictionary, which you will need.

Some English words can be deciphered, example: "…swear like a docker …" Translation: a dock worker. But other meanings are not so obvious. Example: "Bobby was working for some scousers there after he did a runner." Scousers refers to either a Liverpool dialect or a stew eaten by sailors and locals. I figure the author meant the dialect. A runner is a smuggler, a hallway rug, or a fast-moving fish. I decided this referred to a smuggler.

I read the print version then listened to the audio. At the end of the audio version there is an interview with Mr. Horowitz that is not included in the print version. The interviewer gushes over everything Mr. Osman says. Her demeanor is less than professional and unbiased. It reminds me of someone deep in the throngs of a high school crush. It made me feel embarrassed for the interviewer, it is that awkward.

Normally I do not give a book less than three bookmarkers. As an author I know how difficult writing can be. That said, this book is amateurish. I would have suggested the author hire an editor; I was flabbergast that he had. This is without a doubt one of the worse books I've ever read or listened to. How it ended up with any praise is beyond me.

Susan Piazza, a Navy veteran, is an author, columnist, and blogger. She can be found at susanpiazzaauthor.com Her newly released book, the historical fiction "A Bird Call That Isn't," can be found on Amazon at: A Bird Call That Isn't The sequel "Wise Woman" should be out in a couple months. You can read Abigail's diary excerpts on: Facebook: "A Bird Call That Isn't launch". Love to hear from you!

TITA CONTINUED FROM 2

feedback from others helped me.

Tita emphasized she hoped her interview would provide hope to someone battling cancer. In response to asking her how to support someone recently diagnosed, she stated, "I would tell someone that just got diagnosed, do whatever YOU need to do to get through the day. Feel that emotion, yell, scream whatever you need. Then when you are done, Get up and fight! Don't give in. I am not saying that it will be easy, because it will suck 99% of the time. You will get on the other side.

I developed my routine, especially on chemo days. After my surgery, my village was there to help me with my son. During radiation, my village was also there."

Today we celebrate both Tita's rémission from a battle with cancer and an example of a community coming together to celebrate. Haverhill certainly has their thumb on fostering a sense of community. Once again Battle Ground Coffee Company hosts a place to gather, serve their community, and recognize their patrons' struggles and accomplishments. Isn't this what it should be about. Thank you, Dana DeFranco and Salvatore DeFranco, for knowing the importance of creating a supportive village.

And Tita, well she has already hit the ground running. Loving her family, servicing her community, and running her business. Tita is no stranger to servicing the Haverhill Community herself. She serves on the Planning Committee for Haverhill Restaurant Week, Haverhill Cultural Council, Planning Committee for Winning Opportunities for Woman, Team Leader for the Jimmy Fund, Soul Cocktail with Tita, and running her business Olive Drop Management. ◊

OBITUARY: SCOTT COUTURE

Scott Alan Couture, 55, of Merrimack, NH and formerly of Lawrence, MA, passed away peacefully on Friday, April 30th, 2021 at his home after a courageous battle with cancer.

He was born in Lawrence, MA on January 11th, 1966 to the late Florian and Daisy (Campton) Couture. He was raised in Lawrence and graduated from Greater Lawrence Technical School 1984.

Scott worked for Lawrence General Hospital as an EMT and in the Merrimack Valley for more than 30 years. When he wasn't working, Scott enjoyed kayaking, playing bass guitar, riding both bicycles and motorcycles, watching the Patriots, but especially spending time with his family and friends.

He was pre-deceased by a brother, Bruce Couture in 2016.

Scott will be forever loved and remembered by his wife of almost 10 years, Jennifer (LeProhon) Couture; five children, Renee and her husband Daniel Dippo of Londonderry, NH, Rachael Cruz of Methuen, MA, Ashley and her husband Julio Rivera of Haverhill, MA, Andrew Kloo and Olivia Couture both of Merrimack; a brother, Wayne Couture and wife Kelly of Cape Coral, FL along with eight grandchildren, several nieces, nephews and lots of friends.

CRIME: FROM PAGE 7

of scams. A lot of it targets the elderly. If someone is a victim of a scam, we will try to recover as much money as possible, but a lot of it depends on how they were scammed. Many of these scams operate out of the country, so we work with the FBI and the federal government to track down scammers and stolen money. IC3 (3-point scams): a reporting portal for the FBI. These cases are time sensitive. There's waiting periods at each stop depending on the amount of money stolen. We've had some luck recovering money for people, but everything depends on how they were scammed and how the money was exchanged. Because scammers can hide behind so many layers on the internet, in a lot of these cases, we don't have much luck.

Foulds said that the impersonation problem inaccurately represents crime in North Andover, "90% of the cases are unemployment fraud where no money was lost. It's a categorization issue."

Excluding the number of reported cases of impersonation, the crime rate appears to have held steady or even slightly dropped in 2020. Foulds said that the police department, and the town as a whole, has had to think differently to deter criminals.

"Our goal is to staff the city/town with the right amount of police officers on every shift. We also try to make sure they're doing proactive police work, which means getting out of your car, speaking to people, making sure good information is being passed along, roll call to the officers, directed patrols, etc. We make sure that we're doing extra work during certain times a year (Christmas, summer months, etc.) and in certain parts of town. If you deal with the quality-of-life issues, and you do it right, other crimes will decrease."

When asked if the North Andover Police Department is having difficulty finding people who want to be police officers, he said that the current state of policing is having an effect.

"I think we're seeing a little bit of dip in terms of people wanting to get into this position. We just graduated 3 from the police academy, and 3 people just entered the police academy. Veteran's preference. It's not quite as competitive to get into this position nowadays."

Eric Spagnoli is a Senior English and Communication student at Saint Anselm College in Goffstown, NH. He is an aspiring journalist with a passion for sports, comedy, and public service. You can email him: espagnoli@Anselm.Edu ◊

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Clear Path for Veterans, New England would like to thank Congresswoman Lori Trahan and the Devens delegation for a very special visit to Clear Path for Veterans New England to announce the much-needed HVRP funding to help at-risk and homeless veterans with much-needed employment services! This funding will support veterans in Massachusetts and New Hampshire serving 8 counties including Essex County.

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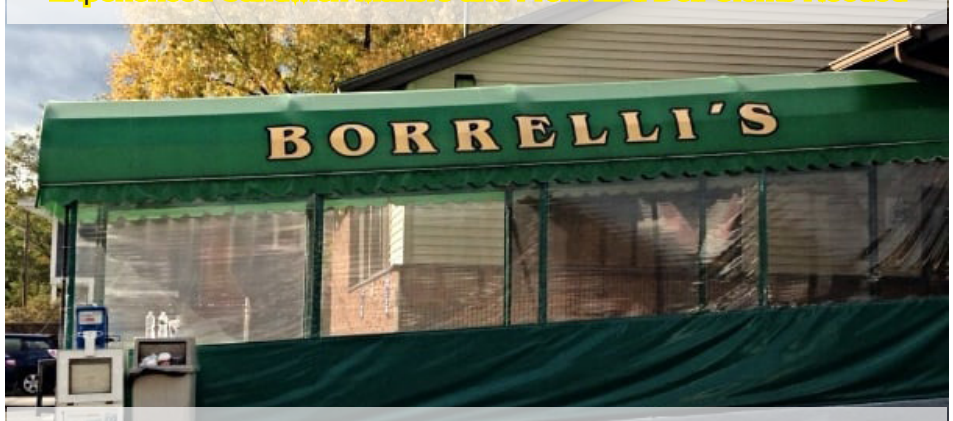

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HERO: FROM PAGE 1

and became a US Navy "Shellback". A Shellback is a sailor or Marine, who crossed the equator aboard a Navy warship, and a Golden Shellback, is a sailor or Marine, who has crossed both the prime meridian and the equator at the same time. The initiation ceremony has been "toned down" by Navy brass, in recent times, due to fear of media or political fallout. But during the Vietnam era, the initiation process involved in becoming a Shellback was often traumatic, and not very politically correct. Louis was awarded the National Defense Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal for his four years of service in the US Navy.

After leaving the military, Louis went to work for New England Power. He initially worked mainly digging, blasting, and later was assigned to a crew as a lineman. Later, he worked as a carpenter and has finished his career as an ICU clerk at Massachusetts General Hospital. He and his wife have two daughters and one son, and one grandson. His enjoys riding his Harley Davidson and has attended the Laconia Motorcycle Rally many times. Louis is a Ham radio operator, call sign AZ1DG.

Truly a "Hero in Our Midst"!

The Dracut American Legion asks all World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War Veterans, to call (603) 518-5368 and sign up for an Honor Flight to the Memorials in Washington DC! Veterans of all eras are asked to go the American

Legion's Web site www.legion.org, and join the American Legion, preserving our Veteran's Benefits for future generations.

John Cuddy served in the US Navy's Construction Battalions (also known as the Seabees) after retiring from the Navy; he earned a bachelor's in history and a master's in economics from the University of Massachusetts on the Lowell Campus. He has been employed in Logistics at FedEx for the last 24 years. If you know a World War II, Korean War or Vietnam War Veteran who would like their story told, please email him at John.Cuddy@Yahoo.com. ◊

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What's The Scoop On Ice Cream?

Rick Bellanti
VALLEY PATRIOT REPORTER

Last year at this time I wrote about surviving the summer barbeque season.

This time I want to focus on the delicious summer treat: Ice Cream!

Who doesn't like ice cream? I mean, it's not just for summer, and of course it is available all year long (for us ice cream diehards). It's this time of year with these hot, sunny summer days that have us craving this delicious treat even more. Way back a long time ago, there was an ice cream business that used to say we have 31 flavors to choose from. Nowadays there has to be over 100 ice cream flavors to choose from and trust me, I've tried them all.

Did you know that the first ice cream shop in America opened in New York City in 1776. American colonists were the first to use the term ice cream. The name came from the phrase iced cream, the name was later abbreviated to "ice cream," the name of which we call it today.

Ice cream seems simple enough; it is customarily made with some type of dairy like milk or cream as a base and is then flavored with a sweetener such as sugar and a spice such as chocolate or vanilla, or added fruit such as strawberries, bananas, or pineapples. Fast forward to the 21st century and now you can find cookie dough, brownies, even birthday cake ice cream (the flavors are endless). And we haven't even touched the subject of toppings.

Let's talk about healthy choices now.

It can be tricky to stay on your wellness track while still having your favorite summer ice cream treat, but some ice creams contain more than 300 calories per half-cup serving.

The good news is many varieties are now available that will please your taste buds for a lot less calories and fat (and sugar). There is even KETO ice cream for those following a KETO type programs.

Ice cream is a fun summer treat but try to have it in moderation and be mindful of the fat and calories in ice cream when you indulge. We must keep portion size in mind, you never want to eat it right out of the container; that would be a big mistake. When visiting your favorite local ice cream shop always get a size whether it is kiddie, small, medium, or large, at least you will know the portion you are eating and not be eating mindlessly. I always find that buying the boxes of individual ice creams such as ice cream sandwiches, popsicles, sundae cups etc. are best. They are already portioned out for you and the nutrition information is right on the side of the packaging for you.

Be careful of claims of No Sugar Added, Sugar Free, or Reduced Sugar.

Just because a product has a low sugar content claim doesn't mean it's good for you. This can fool health-conscious shoppers into thinking it's a better choice. Products with low sugar claims often contain a sugar substitute or low-calorie sweetener. This is how they can contain less sugars but maintain the sweetness expected in the food or drink. We all know that substitute sweeteners are not necessarily healthy for you. Look for 100% Stevia as a sweetener if you are looking for an artificial healthier option to sugar.

Items advertised as sugar free could mean, it contains less the 0.5 grams of sugars, both natural and added. Items advertised as No Sugar Added, no ingredients containing sugar was added during processing or packaging. And items advertised as Reduced Sugar, has at least 25% less sugars than the regular version of the product.

Be wary of Fat-Free ice creams as well, as the trouble with fat-free anything also means taste free, and to make up for the lack of taste they will load in other ingredients to make up the taste, especially sugar, flour, other thickeners, and salt. All of which can not only add calories but up the sugar and carbohydrate content as well. Read your labels carefully if you really are on a diet and fitness program and need to record all your food intake or as a diabetic keeping track of your sugars.

Don't forget, summer get togethers with friends and family are not just about eating! Have some fun, throw a ball around with the kids, play with the dog or go for a swim. Any activity will vamp up your metabolism and burn some of those calories you are consuming and if you are being active. Then you can eat your ice cream guilt free, don't forget moderation is the key.

The idea is to go out enjoy the summer weather and be with friends and family; you do not want to deprive yourself of the fun company and food you love. Remember this is a lifelong commitment and a few treats along the way are not going to reverse all your hard work. A healthy lifestyle is about making good healthy choices. Stay hydrated, watch your portions, think fresh fruits, veggies, and delicious ice cream! Enjoy your summer!

Rick Bellanti is a wellness columnist and is on a journey himself to lose 240lbs and has lost 160 lbs. since the start of 2015. If you have any questions or comments, please post them to his Getting Healthy with Rick Bellanti Facebook page and once a month he will address a few of the topics here. ◊

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URENA CONTINUED FROM 5

him for the Guard not being notified immediately. The one guy who was actually trying to do something about all this. It's inexcusable."

"He is not only owed an apology he should be reinstated to that job, like, tomorrow. We now have the proof that his forced resignation was bogus. He was set up. He should be put back in that job doing what he does best, helping veterans and their families get the government services they are entitled to."

"I remember the day he came back from the Middle East back in 2006. We were dealing with a massive flood in the city. The Red Cross had set up tents outside the affected area for victims of the flood to get food and supplies, and try to get temporary housing."

"Francisco heard about the flood on the radio coming back from Logan Airport. He dropped off his bags at home and came right to the tents to help."

"He was there around the clock for days helping families that were displaced and identifying veterans who were affected, so that he could get them additional services. So, when I first heard that it was Francisco being blamed and that Charlie had forced him to resign, I thought, I know both of these guys really well and there is no way in hell Francisco Urena neglected a veteran, COVID or no COVID."

SENATOR DEMANDS BAKER TESTIFY

Massachusetts State Senator Diana DiZoglio (D-Methuen) is calling for a full senate investigation into the Baker Administration, saying she will call in Governor Charlie Baker himself to testify. DiZoglio told the Valley Patriot she was disgusted at the treatment of Urena.

DiZoglio says that the deceptions by Baker and his administration are unacceptable. She further questioned why the governor claimed that the first time he met Bennett Walsh "was during his swearing-in to the superintendent position" – a claim refuted in the Spotlight report, which revealed Baker was in-fact greatly involved in his hiring, and even interviewed him personally."

"The Governor somehow "forgot" who he hired (Walsh)," DiZoglio told The Valley Patriot, "and a head had to roll. So, he sent the Lawrence kid packing. Our Purple Heart veteran, Francisco Urena should certainly receive a public apology." DiZoglio questioned "why Urena was forced to resign by the Administration when he had no statutory oversight of the management and operations at Holyoke".

She said others were responsible and those administration officials should be the ones held accountable.

She also said that she is "calling for a Senate oversight hearing, with sworn testimony from the Governor and his Administration, utilizing the full subpoena and record review powers within the Legislature's purview, into the layers of potential wrongdoing raised in the Spotlight (Globe) investigation."

She added that Urena had no part in the COVID deaths and, in fact, tried hard to get the Baker administration to do something about Bennet Walsh's incompetence for months before the COVID deaths in his nursing home.

DiZoglio says she questions the validity and construction of the "Pearlstein Report," - which blamed Urena. "That 'investigation' was spearheaded by Attorney Mark W. Pearlstein who was critical of the home's then-superintendent, Bennett Walsh, for mishandling the outbreak, yet placed no responsibility upon the Governor or his Administration for the tragedy at Holyoke."

Among the questions DiZoglio raised, was, how Walsh - "someone with no nursing home background - was hired to make life and death decisions for our vulnerable veteran population during a global pandemic."

"As we took time to remember and honor those brave soldiers who gave their lives for our nation this Memorial Day, I was filled with an even greater sense of urgency and responsibility to find out what truly happened at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home in order to prevent it from ever happening again," DiZoglio said.

"As elected leaders, we need to do more to protect the most vulnerable veterans in our care. Now is the time to get answers to some of the questions raised by the recent Boston Globe Spotlight series which exposed not only serious flaws in the management and oversight of the entirely state-funded Holyoke Soldiers Home, but also begged the question of how to legislatively prevent similar disasters from ever happening again."

During the COVID-19 pandemic, 77 residents of the Soldiers' Home in Holyoke died of the virus – the deadliest outbreak at a long-term care facility in the United States during the course of the pandemic.

In late March, there had been 230 residents at the home.

By the end of April, only about 100 remained. ◊

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Kirsta D Deschamps, Marion Herrick, 220,000, A3 Colonial Dr Unit 1

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Derek D & Erika Witwicki/Erika K Harrison, Daniel P & Sarah Doe, 485,000, 64 North St

PT Muto Realty Trust & Michael G Muto Tr, Steven & Elizabeth L Leed, 1,200,000, 24 William St

GRE Andover Medical Center LLC, Andover 323 MP RK6 LLC, 55,200,000, 319-329 Lowell St

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Hao Chang & Yu Chen, Steven A Lis & Elizabeth R Woods, 460,000, 174 Haverhill St Unit 319

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Paul Shulins & Susan Soule Shulins, Guang Yang & Heyi Zhang, 732,500, 59 Rattlesnake Hill Rd

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Robert J Branca, Francis & Debra Marino, 750,000, 46 Cutler Rd

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Leandro Rodriguez Jr & Everisa Rodriguez, Ana E Gonzalez, 400,000, 16 Kendall St

Raymond A L'Heureux, Raul Cruz, 3,500, 20 Doyle St Rear

Eduard Lara, Daher Group Inc, 557,500, 6-8 Sanborn St

Elaine M Galarneau, Jacqueline Lopez, 525,000, 85-87 Sunset Ave

Centura Bay LLC, Kiana N Moudarri & Zackary R Laporte, 395,000, 6 Jefferson St

David T & Lisa A Gilman & Robert J Allicon Jr, Erick D Salazar Santizo & Myra L Lopez Duran, 515,000, 26 Dartmouth St

Wendys C Tejeda Dereyes, Janser Lara & Alexandra Villa, 600,000, 19-21 Newton St

Carolina Abreu, Rosemery De La Cruz & Antonio Ricardo Santana Reyes, 637,000, 21 Pleasant St

Mary Ann Hollingsworth, Jose Valdera & Carmen Severino Corona, 450,000, 23 Gorham St

Juan I Rosa, Renato A Munoz Garcia & Andreina Nunez Acosta, 648,000, 132-134 Walnut St

CCM Properties Group LLC, Salvatore Toscano, 127,000, 11 Lawrence St Unit 801

Carmen Milagro Quezada, Enid Paulino, 410,000, 7 Pearl Ave

Hector Hiciano & Bienvenida E Savinon, Estanislao Pineda-Rivas & Maria Portillo, 310,000, 354 Lawrence St

Andrew William Tchate Ndeugoue, Reginald E Creer, 715,000, 53-53A Bellevue St

Carmen J Morel, Esmerlyn Cordero & Selbrete Sosa, 550,000, 30-32 Maple St

Maria Taveras, Gladys Elizabeth Rodriguez, 210,000, 184-184A West St

Philippe E & Gisele Chasse, Natalie Guevara, 300,000, 16 Huse St

Jose Rafael Abreu, Cesar M Guzman & Yamilka Gonzalez, 600,000, 36-38 Hillside Ave

Barry P & Dawn M Melanson, Genesis Y Guerra Tavarez & Joezer Ali Guerra, 434,000, 218 Mount Vernon St

Gregroy Lane Tr & GMCL Realty Trust, Jorge Del Valle, 440,000, 105-107 Perry Ave

CCM Properties Group LLC, Nicholas Caliendo, 120,000, 11 Lawrence St Unit 607

Daniel Martins De Carvalho & Karla Zingara Peixoto Marcelino De Carvalho, Catherine Githira, 355,470, 75 Byron Ave

Fajardo Family Realty Trust & Juana & Sixto Fajardo Trs, Robinson Aquino & Alex Mercedes, 300,000, 100 South Broadway

Yraina & Edwin Fermin, Pedro Antonio Geraldino & Maicaol Ramon Nunez Garcia, 695,000, 57 Belmont St

Virginia Anne Sweder, Twenty Border Street LLC, 270,000, 20 Border St

Melvin Parra, Hawasatu & Lise Dumbuya, 340,000, 20 Jamaica St

Elizabeth E Picard & Irene Farrah Est, Ana E Torres, 293,000, 63 Hillside Ave Unit A

Iron Mountain Information Management LLC, 216 Canal Street LLC, 915,000, 216 Canal St

Concetta & Paul A Foster, Greta & Lirim Shehaj, 451,000, 6 Crestshire Dr

Lee L & Christine M Munger, Marcos H & Margaret Goncalves, 615,000, 55-59 Winthrop Ave

Sfour Trust & Sean M Moynihan Tr & Sandra G Moynihan Tr, DLC Phase One LLC, 1,425,000, 175 Essex St, 5 Jackson St

22 Woodland Realty Trust & Irene Tarshi Tr, Woodland Street LLC, 2,700,000, 22 Woodland St

Alexis Reynoso & Rosa M Martinez, Santos & Carmen M Taveras, 550,000, 17-19 Jennings St

John T Sheehy Tr & Matthew J Tulley Tr & MT Realty Trust, Belgica Diaz, 180,000, 169 Ferry St Unit 2

Venecia Liriano De Lopez & Nestor Lopez, Rocio Vasquez, 640,000, 114-116 Salem St

Yokatia E Rodriguez, Pedro A Rivera Roldan, 535,000, 12 Willow St

Feliciana V Morales/Feliciana A Medina, Laura Ana Valdez, 665,900, 1-3 Sargent St

METHUEN

Kevin E & Christina L Lefebvre, Paul Buchino, 410,000, 34 Westland St

Devin Rogers & Ryan Rourke, Allen LLC, 306,000, 26 Simone St

Renee Lenahan, Rhonda L O'Keefe, 295,000, 23 Hampshire Rd Unit 23-210

JR Builders Inc, Jonathan M Sussman, 683,100, 10 Cooper Ln

Brenda J McDonough, Irene & Richard Henderson, 510,000, 36 Hopkins Cir Unit 27

Kristen J Andersen-Busse/Kristen J Andersen, Rad M & Mais A Alkhatatbeh, 460,000, 1 Merrimack St

Gencon Inc, 33 Lawrence Meel LLC, 590,000, 33 Lawrence St

Joshua C & Meghan E Michalar/ Meghan E Thornhill, Elizabeth A & Peter Emerzian, 501,500, 6 Pleasant Cir

Jenna L Paradis, Steven Michael Kupiec, 480,000, 385 Howe St

Toll MA Land III LP, Joseph V Elia & Paula A Ray, 786,220, 91 Phoebe St Unit 49

Michael Courntey Tr & 22 Lincoln Realty Trust, Pasha Realty LLC, 230,000, 22 Lincoln St

Brian J & Sherry A Keleher, Jolvan Morris, 365,000, 232 Oakland Ave

Melissa Ortins & Nicole Nickole/Nicole Ortins, Leonela Lisbeth Ramirez Trejo & Kevin Sosa, 420,000, 7 Barker St

Luz Y Castillo & Deiby Cafe Faulkner, Sandra Marques & Alan B Houston, 500,000, 27 Armory St

Charles D Mangano, Leocadio Paulino, 360,000, 103 Jackson St

Christopher M & Gloria Valentin, Eduardo Vidoto, 600,000, 126 Maple St

Thomas S & Camille P Lambert, Abraham D Angeles-Inoa, 660,000, 27 Boylston St

Joanna C Yeh, Ferreira Holdings LLC, 125,000, 188 Broadway Unit 1

Joanna C Yeh, Ferreira Holdings LLC, 125,000, 188 Broadway Unit 2

Ellen G C Donovan, Mark & Erin Ward, 683,000, 2 Natasha Cir

Milton & Ariane M Taveras, Edward Herrara & Kariny M Urena & Karolina Herrera, 656,000, 228 Tyler St

Felsy Palma Escalante, Jose M Diaz Liranzo & Clarisa A Cuevas De Diaz, 595,000, 54-56 Strathmore Rd

Michael J & Maria L DeBellis/Maria L Homem , Jonathan V & Bridget Collins, 447,000, 87 Pleasant St

Darren Martino Tr & Denny I Martino Tr & Darren and Denny Martino Family Trust, Brendon Martino, 175,000, 42 Addison Ave Ext

Alfred S Petralia & Mark S Petralia, Julie P Jenkins, 420,000, 37 Davis Rd

Jeff Steep, Christian Praksti, 338,000, 16 Meriline Ave

Arthur J Bourbeau Jr & Diane L Bourbeau, Andrew S & Laura H Goldstone, 516,000, 127 Tyler St

Stasia Jasinski, Mary Ellen Mackin, 195,000, 46 Ashford St Unit 17

Catherine E & Michael J Archambault, Sean Archambault, 383,750, 7 Strongwater Rd

Nicole P Rollins & Kevin P Tremblay, Dennis M Desmond & Elizabeth A Griffin, 425,000, 47 Campus Rd

Gary & Danielle Hewson , Silvia Ramirez Fabian & Efrain Cruz Maldonado, 430,000, 36 Westland St

Marie Onofre/Marie Oliveira & Lester Guillermo Onofre, Jose A DeJesus Ramos & Yohanda L DeJesus Diaz, 465,000, 6 Huse Rd

Carriage Homes LLC, Luz Y Castillo & Deiby Faulkner, 679,900, 7 Country Club Cir Unit 85

Gabriel Lopez, Rafinel Castillo, 360,000, 41 Davis Rd

Kyle M Merkosky & Renee M Merkosky, Rebecca Brown & Gregory T Altobello, 288,000, 26 Ashford St Unit 26B

Toll MA Land III LP, Timothy Allan Butler & Ronald Claude Bourque, 702,532, 81 Phoebe St Unit 44

Altair Farias Jr, Christopher Soares & Marie Ricupero, 585,000, 152 Maple St

Bradan & Tracy Curley, Stephen J & Katherine K Gendron, 765,000, 82 Pine Tree Dr Unit 124

Johanna Duran & Nelson Rodriguez, Jose Manuel Lopez & Amalia Villa, 427,000, 17 Carleton St

Ferrett Realty Trust & Micheline S Jillett Ind Tr & Susan Ferri Ind Tr, Jessica King Green, 168,000, 50 Danbury Dr Unit 8

Marianne Dalias 1998 Trust & Marianne Dalias Tr & Robert Dalias Tr & Robert Dalias 1998 Trust, John & Theresa Munson, 775,000, 71 Pine Tree Dr Unit 74

Carriage Homes LLC, Cheryl Walsh, 569,900, 3 Country Club Cir Unit 76

Edward M Sullivan Jr & Erin T Sullivan, Sean Daves & Nicole Rainville, 760,000, 4 Sabrina Ct

Toll MA Land III LP, Valerie A Daigneau & Diane M Collins, 653,651, 83 Phoebe St Unit 45

Carriage Homes LLC, Robert & Anita Megerdichian, 558,502, 5 Country Club Cir Unit 75

David S & Sheena Courage, Sattwik Gavli & Sumedha Singla, 327,000, 45 Washington St Unit 90

David J & Carole A Stapleton, David S Courage Jr & Sheena Courage, 555,000, 43 Bridle Path Ln

3M Touch Systems Inc, Griffin Brook Drive Owner LLC, 11,350,000, 501, 600 Griffin Brook Dr

Maria Martino Family Trust & Maria Martino Tr, Douglas Gigliotti, 605,000, 30 Linwood Ave

Toll MA Land III LP, Raymond & Margaret Melillo, 700,591, 85 Phoebe St Unit 46

Manuel V & Arselina Vieira, Alan & Betty R Felenchar, 580,000, 126 Sherwood Dr Unit 238

US Bank Trust NA Tr, Abigail Santiago, 265,000, 6 Brookdale Ave

Susan Wambold, Michael Daniel Schleicher, 310,000, 1 Riverview Blv Unit 9-201

Wissam & Gretta Merheb, Manuel A Nunez & Evelyn Almonte, 425,000, 24 Tudor St

Christopher W & Stacey Driscoll, Jinlan Zhang & Peter M Nestor Jr, 612,000, 7 Oxyoke Dr

David R Sirois Tr & Sirois Family Irrevocable Trust, Jorge L Rivera & Caelyn G Ford, 310,000, 10 Byron Ave

Raymond J Lander & Jacqueline Landers, Marlene Sena & David Alberto Taveras, 700,000, 10 Apple Blossom Wy

Debbie Lee, Robert Powers, 249,000, 945 Riverside Dr Unit 8B

L & C Family Trust & Luciano & Cheryl J Bellia Trs, Jae Rivas Inc, 205,000, 945 Riverside Dr Unit 23

King Family Trust & Shirley J King Tr, John Vargas, 225,000, 311 Lowell St

Beverly A Harvey, Jeffmie S Arriaza-Morales & Jose A Arriaza, 700,000, 29 Landmark Dr

Derek Kreymer, Timothy D Sullivan, 235,000, 58 1/2 Union St

Keith & Claudette Bininger, Michael Cruz Almonte & Kiara Garcia, 360,000, 87 Golf Ave

Stan McDowell, Eva Elizabeth Castro, 295,000, 253 Oakland Ave Unit 2

Rosaura Garcia, Zalfa Raad, 350,000, 45 Washington St Unit 53

Margaret E Rowan, Leandro M Nascimento & Nayara Pantolfo Nasciento, 485,000, 34 Wintergreen Cir

Patricia Normandin, Phoung Tran, 280,600, 110 Marshall St Unit 2

Justin S Miceli , Sara D Paiva & Maria Das Gracas Paiva, 230,000, 179 North Lowell St Unit 1

Gabriel Acevedo, Roldanny Garcia, 290,000, 1 Tenney St

CRH Realty LLC & Christopher R Hertrich , David M O'Keefe & Diane R Sevajian, 159,900, 59 Ford St Unit B

Lisa A Myers, Melissa G Moretto & Carol A Cincotta, 350,000, 19 Landing Dr

Agata D Leone & Nunzia J Leone & Ida D Leone & Nancy J Leone, Jose A Pacheco Condo & Ana L Brito Zihcay, 475,000, 474 Prospect St

William S Paterson Tr & Paterson Family Realty Trust, Kyle F Leone, 395,000, 76 Pleasant St

Linda Kirker & John Lever, Adain Fernandez & Pedro E Madera Valerio, 640,000, 100-102 Jackson St

NORTH ANDOVER

Merry Beninato, Richard Lamourine, 430,000, 18 Perry St

Peter & Kerry Breen, Zachary J Green & Nelsa L Estrella, 849,000, 770 Boxford St

Ferrara Family Realty Trust & Irene E Ferrara Tr, Christine Kaelblein, 255,000, 42 Fernview Ave Unit 4

Osgood Street Apartments LLC, Lipt Osgood Street LLC, 72,500,000, 1252 Osgood St

RCG West Mill NA LLC, North Andover Avalon LLC, 9,400,000, High St

Dennis J & Marie-Helene/Marle-Helene Warner , Sigfredo Secreast-Rivera & Nicole Belanger, 775,000, 240 Sutton Hill Rd

FSB Homes LLC, Jerry J Rice Jr & Meghan Marie Dowling, 800,000, 197 Campbell Rd

Harding-Tillman Revocable Living Trust & Olivia S Harding-Tillman Tr, Andrea Borrelli & Cameron Davis, 622,500, 46 Stonington St

Carol A Melander Tr/Carol E Melander Tr & 25 Gilman Lane Realty Trust , Nicolas Tyler Lunger & Stacy-Lee Ann Lunger, 1,055,000, 25 Gilman Ln

Michael I Gendlerman Est & Josef Gendlerman, Craig S & Melissa A Nussbaum, 359,000, 90 Millpond

Hananian 2017 Trust & P Richard Shahtanian Tr , Dillon K Halliday & Caitlin M Callahan, 562,000, 39 Sutton Pl

Lawrence W Faye, Abigail Chmielecki & Jake Thomas O'Donnell, 585,000, 92 Buckingham Rd

Dennis J McCoy, Timothy Panunzio, 170,000, 10 Walker Rd Unit 10-4

Debra L Finn, Arafeen Quazi & Shaibo Rubaida, 305,000, 88 Farrwood Ave Unit 88FW-7

Hall Family Realty Trust & Preston M Hall Tr & Dawn M Hall Tr, Donald J Gregorie Jr & Kathleen E Mearls-Gregorie, 965,000, 191 Kara Dr

Timothy J Lambert Tr & Laura A Lambert Tr & Shawn A Lambert Tr & Lambert Chickering Road Realty Trust, Suzanne Doran Mammola Tr & Doran Irrevocable Trust, 335,000, 180 Chickering Rd Unit 110C

Harrison David Starkweather & Diana Le, Katelyn Thigpen, 405,000, 35 Mount Vernon St Unit L

Maureen Landers Tr & Mary Susan L Howlett Tr & Landers Nominee Trust, RCG J Wiley LLC, 2,750,000, 1 Elm Ct, 93 Elm Ct

Maureen Dannahy, Vincent B Landers Revocable Trust of May 31, 1991 & Stephen D Spang Tr, 289,900, 148 Main St Unit B-233

Pamela W & Edward G MacMahon, Debra L Finn, 355,000, 33 Mill Pond

Michael J & Janis L Quigley, Eric E & Elizabeth M Halvorsen, 880,000, 234 Hay Meadow Rd

Dennis J & Nancy McCleary, Edward & Elizabeth Ryan, 675,000, 104 Milk St

Ryan J Nicolosi, Joseph K Smith & Kathleen P Simonds, 325,000, 29 Second St Unit 29

Darren S & Laura L Winnie, Isaac Akiva & Dorrit Borensztajn, 880,000, 160 Carlton Ln

Eugene F Reilly Tr & Judith W Reilly Tr & JWR Realty Trust, Jeffrey S Thomas, 1,800,000, 316 Johnson St

Phoebe & Philip Roberts, Anne Marie Leduc, 355,000, 156 Chestnut St Unit 7

Stephen M Juba III & Cheryl A Juba, Eric & Andrea Braciska, 861,000, 555 Salem St

Jacqueline Murphy, Luilly Vasquez, 288,000, 88 Farrwood Ave Unit 9

Deborah A Picard Tr & V Scott Follansbee Revocable Trust-2006 & Joseph Kashaneck Tr, Ermal Malaj & Olger Guri, 700,000, 68-70 Autran Ave

Julianna Giannusa, Andrew Brian Kerrigan & Andrea Michele Kerrigan, 260,000, 52 Farrwood Ave Unit 3

Kendra & Maximilian Laverty, Adam Marto & Nadia Chinchilla, 725,000, 64 White Birch Ln

Richard A & Jane E Kapelson Trs & Cochichewick Drive Realty Trust, Mary Elaine Yameen Tr & Mary Elaine Yameen Revocable Trust of 1996, 600,000, 37 Cochichewick Dr Unit 11

Jagdish & Suman Garg, Paul & Brian J MacDonald, 815,000, 155 Laconia Cir

Madgy & Karen L Shaban, Justin W Merrifield & Shannon M Fahey-Merrifield, 603,000, 32 Surrey Dr

Alvin L & Rebecca L Lin, Jeffrey R & Sheri L Soucy Trs & 290 Webster Woods Lane Realty Trust, 1,250,000, 290 Webster Woods Ln

John D Mattheson Jr, Andrew V Arbia, 486,000, 50 Beverly St

Eric J & Kate Evans/Kate Looby , Adam Marengi & Myungwon Baek & E Hyun Baek & Seok Hwa Ahn, 358,000, 3 Harvest Dr Unit 213

Brian J Lebl, William Leo Phelan & Kathryn Elizabeth Foss Phelan, 642,100, 172 Middlesex St

Kimberly A Incampo Tr & Kimberly A Incampo Family Trust & Paolo Incampo, Camelia Saffarini & Christopher Watt, 1,085,000, 181 Johnny Cake St

Jane C DiPerri Tr & Elliot M Goldstein Tr & 129 Main Street Realty Trust, NA Main Street LLC, 1,175,000, 129-131 Main St

Jeffrey & Lisa K Zimmerman, Marciana J Ramos & Nathan A DeDomenico, 1,050,000, 95 Leanne Dr

Amanda V Donahue, Michelle Dutton, 267,000, 52 Farrwood Ave Unit 52W-5

Mark DiRienzo, Kellynette Marie Gomez-Gomez, 235,000, 1 Walker Rd Unit 7

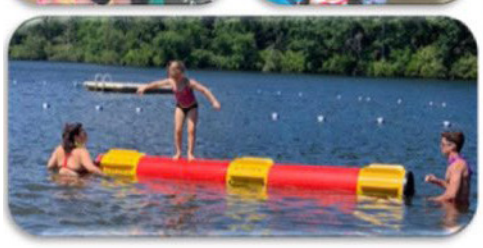
Anthony S Amore , James Donahue & Linda Kirtland Donahue, 660,000, 35 Cox Lnqm

Stevens Pond North Andover

Stevens Pond will be open to North Andover residents from
Monday, June 21st 2021 – Friday, August 20th 2021
7 Days a Week from 9:30am until 7:00pm

Beginning **Monday, May 3rd at 9am,** pond passes will be available to North Andover residents and can be purchased online. Our online registration link can be found at nayouth.com. A **SEASON PASS costs $75.** Additional stickers may be purchased for $20 per car. Auto Registration proving residency will need to be shown when picking up passes for the first time (you will receive information in late spring about picking up passes.)

Adult Day Passes for guests of residents and residents without stickers can be purchased for a daily fee of $13 per car, once the Pond opens for the season. They will be available online beginning at noon on the day you are planning to come, and sales will stop when the Pond has reached capacity.



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$50 per child for each four-week session

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Session 2: July 26th – August 19th

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kellyatstevenspond@hotmail.com

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TV TALK with BILL CUSHING

‘Mare of Easttown’

Bill Cushing
VALLEY PATRIOT TV COLUMNIST

A shocking crime in a small town leads to an investigation that ultimately reveals every major local scandal in a surprisingly troublesome community. It’s a story that’s been done countless times before. But rarely has it been done as well as HBO’s latest limited series, ‘Mare of Easttown.’

Oscar and Emmy winner Kate Winslet plays Mare Sheehan, a cynical and traumatized police detective who never left where she grew up, in this case, a small community called Easttown, Pennsylvania. A community where everyone knows each other. Something that permeates throughout this series.

The series follows an attempt to solve the murder of a young woman and the possibly related disappearances of two others. Erin, a single teenage mother is found dead after the town’s young people congregated for a party in the woods. Erin had left early, having been beaten up by Brianna, the vicious girlfriend of her baby’s father, Dylan. Immediately the town begins to wonder if it is connected to the disappearance of Katy Bailey, the drug-addicted daughter of Mare’s high-school friend Dawn, who vanished a year ago.

A new investigation into Katy’s case is ordered alongside the new murder case and a county detective, Colin Zabel, is brought in to assist Mare. Zabel soon comes to realize the many connections that Mare has with Easttown. From there we are given one twist and turn after the other, and the viewers are convinced at the guilt of several different people throughout the story.

What separates this show from other shows that have done similar stories many times before, is the strong characters. They grow on viewers with each hour-long episode they watch. Mare is a very complex and broken character. Throughout the show we learn the reasons for Mare’s rough exterior. Mare’s past is revealed to us on a need-to-know basis through her interactions with her family, friends, and neighbors. Through those scenes we learn she’s lost a grown son to suicide; gotten divorced from her husband, who’s now engaged to another woman; and she’s trying to raise the grandson that her own son left behind. We also learn that her past, has formed the person she has become, both personally and professionally. I won’t give too many more details and spoil the story, it’s much better to watch it and experience it on your own.

‘Mare of Eastown’ boasts an impressive ensemble cast. The always excellent Jean Smart plays Mare’s mother, Helen. Evan Peters (American Horror Story) is outstanding as Detective Colin Zabel. Julianne Nicholson as Lori, Mare’s best friend since childhood. And Guy Pearce (Memento) plays Richard, a visiting writing professor who becomes a love interest for Mare. The wide range of characters that we are introduced to in the first episode of the show alone is a who’s who of the town. We meet ex-husbands, best friends, cousins, children with special needs, abusive fathers, Catholic priests, and jealous girlfriends. But make no mistake about it, Winslet is the MVP of this series. She is tremendous, and gives a masterful performance in the title role.

Written and created by Brad Inglesby (Our Friend, The Way Back) and directed by Craig Zobel (The Leftovers, Westworld), the show expertly weaves the lives and secrets of the residents of this small town into the story, and the tension builds in each episode. The fifth episode of this seven-episode series features in an extremely intense and brilliantly filmed sequence that escalates to a stunning, edge of your seat conclusion.

‘Mare of Easttown’ is available on HBO On Demand, or on HBO Max.

If you have any questions about TV, you can email me at BillsTVTalk@gmail.com. I will answer all of your questions and will feature some of the questions I receive in a future Mailbag column.

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NOTEBOOK FROM PAGE 9

won't be funding remediation efforts that could actually damage the ecology. The alternative, according to recent studies, would likely cost as much as eight times the price of a deceiver to mitigate the damage to the municipal infrastructure and to local commercial, private & public properties.

NORTH ANDOVER Historical Society - To become fully inclusive, the society's Accessibility Committee is developing an Accessibility Plan for the Caroline Stevens Center. Their first priority is to add an elevator to the second floor, which currently can only be reached by stairs. The second floor includes the library, flexible meeting space, & administrative offices.

HAVERHILL - BUTTONWOODS MUSEUM TOUR GUIDES FOR ANOTHER SEASON

Wednesday, June 2nd at 12pm
Bradford Common
Sunday, June 6th at 3pm
Linwood Cemetery
Saturday, June 12th at 12pm
Bradford Burial Ground
Tuesday, June 15 at 1 p.m.
Pentucket Burial Ground
Saturday, June 19th at 1 pm
Bradford Common

To register email info@buttonwoods.org or call (978)374-4626

Please keep an eye on the Event page of our website for further additions to the schedule.

CAMP INVENTION'S ACTION PACKED, IN-PERSON & AT-HOME SUMMER PROGRAM at THE NORTH ANDOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Camp Invention®, a nationally recognized, nonprofit summer enrichment program, is coming to North Andover Middle School - Week One the week of June 28 - July 2, 2021.

At this local camp, families can choose Camp Invention's in-person or at-home option. And to address any uncertainty that families face when planning for the upcoming summer camp season, Camp Invention now offers the Peace of Mind Promise — where parents can switch their experience format up to six weeks before their camp start date.

A hybrid program featuring both offline activities and optional online sessions, Camp Invention at home enables hands-on exploration by delivering an Innovator's Toolkit, packed full of fun materials, directly to each participant. During the at-home format, local certified instructors take the campers through the day's activities, with the children choosing to attend the four daily online collaborative sessions or move at their own pace.

This year's Recharge curriculum encourages children to be confident in their ideas and explore their innovativeness though hands-on activities including:

Open Mic: Campers amplify their creative voice, reverse engineer a wireless microphone, and then develop and promote their own extraordinary invention.

• Duck Chuck: Through hands-on experiments with trajectory and velocity, children build their own device to launch rubber ducks around the world.

• Road Rally: Imaginations accelerate as children design nature-inspired vehicles that can zoom across land and add prototype elements for moving through air and water.

• SolarBot: Campers build and take care of their very own solar-powered robotic cricket, creating protective gear, a customized habitat and a fun cricket playground.

Whether parents choose the in-person or at-home format, they can be assured that the 2021 Camp Invention program provides a top-notch STEM learning experience for their young innovator.

ARTS LEAGUE OF LOWELL ANNOUNCES JUNE ACTIVITIES

307 Market Street, Lowell, MA 01852
www.artsleagueoflowell.org

The Art League of Lowell is ready to renew spirits with a slate of events for June. Opening this week is a collaborative print and video show "A Walk in the Woods" by artists Jan Johnson and Walter Wright. A series of detailed relief prints combining image and type evoke the complex experience of natural settings, including a video installation with sound and movement. The show continues through June 26th, with an artist reception on June 19 from 3 to 5 PM. Both artists will offer workshops during June:

On June 16th Japanese Relief Printmaking by Johnson. More information can be found on the Arts League website www.artsleagueoflowell.org.

With gatherings limited, the famous ALL artists receptions have been deferred, but finally the gallery is throwing open the doors for a reception on June 12th. Collage for All, a show featuring the diverse work of 26 artists continues through June 26 and will be celebrated with a reception June 12, from 3 to 5. All are welcome, but please wear a mask.

Conveniently located in the center of Lowell's historic district, the Arts League Gallery is open Wednesday through Sunday, from noon to 4 PM. The gallery operates in compliance with safe gathering restrictions in place as mandated by the state of Massachusetts.

BENEATH THE SURFACE

Language Manipulation, Part 2

Paul Murano
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

The Left was able to establish a culture of death in an otherwise Christian society through the alteration of language. At the heart of its strategy was the creation or changing of words to convey falsehood as truth, and the use of powerful mass media to spread its new narrative.

Perhaps its biggest coup in the past 50 years, since "product of conception" was created to legitimize child-killing, was its theft of the word "gay."

Not only was this word stolen from common parlance as meaning 'happy,' but the verbal heist enabled the Left to accomplish two huge victories for the devil: (a) Conflate orientation with action, so no one knows if 'gay' means someone saddled with same-sex attraction or someone who has chosen to embrace and act on it; and (b) conflate feelings with identity, making one's disordered feelings or attractions WHO they are rather than what they feel (i.e. their very identity).

Since the regressive Left was able to do this to an intellectually asleep society, Obergefell vs. Hodges became inevitable. After all, how can you discriminate against WHO someone is?

Seeing this kind of language manipulation unfold over the past 50 years enables us to understand why people like Hitler and Stalin were able to gain power and do what they did to otherwise Christian societies. It's a very sad and rather scary commentary on the state of fallen humanity and its willingness follow the will of the powerful.

The remedy? Stop using their language configurations. Match your words to objective reality, not to the narrative of those who hate truth and love power. Winning back the culture necessitates first winning back the language. Don't repeat objectively foolish mantras foisted on the culture, like "LGBT community" or "transgenderism," which have no correspondence to reality.

The letters LBGTQIA+ that seem to keep growing represent mental constructs that depersonalize people by identifying them with their disordered desires. The word "community" tacked on at the end is nothing but a strategy to legitimize sin. People with same-sex attraction or who are sexually confused are not a 'community.' They are individuals who need loving care, not encouragement to give in to impulse or disorientation.

It's also important to note "gender" has real meaning only as a descriptor of nouns in many of the world's languages. English, which has no gendered nouns, is a rarity. Deep in the human psyche is the notion that masculine and feminine principles permeate the universe and apply to humanity as male and female. The human race, like 99% of the animal kingdom, is made up of two sexes for obvious reasons. The regressive Left, however, has carefully transferred the word "sex" to mean something you 'have' or 'do' rather than something you are, and has substituted "gender" in its place to dissociate sex from biology. This is both anti-scientific and irrational; yet, as if people are sheep following the voice of the world rather than the good shepherd, it has worked in the minds of many.

Truth is the mind corresponding to reality and logic is reality's structure. Logic and clarity are the enemies of the Left because they lead to truth. That's why so-called progressives steer clear of debate and, instead, make the subtle changes needed to influence the masses subconsciously.

To delve further beneath the surface, the words logic and science (bioLOGY, psychoLOGY, etc.) stem from the Greek word Logos, which is used in the Gospel of John to describe the second Person of the Trinity as God's eternal 'Word': "In the beginning was the Logos …"

Without Logos we are unable to know Reality, who in Scripture calls Himself "I Am" (Ex 3:14). When a people reject the Logos, they reject both God and reason, and lose the mind's access to reality.

This is exactly what the post-Christian Left seeks: to replace God with self. As a consequence, it must create its own language constructs to form a false alternative to reality. This has been the modus operandi of the Leftist elite for the past half century in our country.

And so the question remains: Will we continue to be willing participants in the overthrow of truth and goodness, and contribute to the narrative motivated by pleasure and power by the terminology we use?

To people of good will, nothing is more attractive than Truth. To those with hardened hearts, nothing is more repulsive.

Paul is producer and host of Beneath the Surface video and radio podcasts, taught college philosophy & theology, and is a staff writer/producer for St. Michael's Media. Check out his website at Paulmurano.com, and e-mail Paul at PJDM@aol.com.

The Beauty and Splendor of Pentecost, Acts 2.

Peter Larocque
VALLEY PATRIOT COLUMNIST

God's Tremendous Blessings continue to be on all of you in the wonderful name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Sunday May 23, 2021 on the Church Calendar was Pentecost Sunday. We Celebrate Pentecost Sunday as the beginning of the Church, The Body of Christ, The Family of God! Although all of these are true, the beauty and splendor of Pentecost is the out-pouring of The Holy Spirit, The Promise of the Father which Jesus spoke of in Acts 1:4, "And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; NKJV.

The Bible tells of this Pentecost in Acts 2:1-4, "When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." NKJV. These 4 verses tell us that the followers of Jesus did what they were told to do and God met them and filled them! Sounds simple doesn't it. But to understand the real magnificence of this Pentecost we must take a look at the First Pentecost.

The word Pentecost means fifty. The First Pentecost took place exactly fifty days after the First Passover. This was the night before Egypt let God's people go free from many years of bondage. After a series of plagues brought on by Pharos hard-heartiness, the last plague was the first born of anyone who did not have the blood of the lamb on their doorpost and lintels of their house would die. God said he would PASSOVER the house where He saw the blood, thus making this God's Passover. So, fifty days after this event we find Moses and the children of Israel at Mount Sinai where God gave the Law, The 10 Commandments! We read this in Exodus 19:18, "Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly." NKJV. Then, in Exodus 19:20 we read, "Then the LORD came down upon Mount Sinai, on the top of the mountain. And the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up." NKJV. This brings us to Exodus 20:1, "And God spoke all these words, saying:" NKJV. As we review these events, fifty days after the First Passover, God gave the Law, The 10 Commandments marking the First Pentecost! Later on, in Exodus we read what also happened on this First Pentecost, in Exodus 32:28. "So the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And about three thousand men of the people fell that day." NKJV.

Now we are ready to look at the Day of Pentecost of Acts 2 which also took place fifty days after the Passover, (This Passover was before the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Jesus), which we read about in Matthew 26:17-19, "Now on the first day of the Feast of the Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?"18 And He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, "My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples."19 So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they prepared the Passover." NKJV. So, fifty days after this Passover, brings us to Acts 2. Also, later on in Acts 2 we read, Acts 2:41, "Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them." NKJV.

Now we are ready to compare and contrast the First Pentecost and the Pentecost of Acts2.

At The First Pentecost, The Lord descended upon it [Mt. Sinai] completely in smoke and fire. The whole mountain quaked greatly.

Pentecost of Acts 2, "When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. and suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

At The First Pentecost, And the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

Pentecost of Acts 2, Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.

At the First Pentecost, God gave the Law, The 10 Commandments.

Pentecost of Acts 2, God filled them with the Holy Spirit.

At the First Pentecost, about three thousand men of the people fell [died] that day."

Pentecost of Acts 2, about three thousand souls were added to them.

Both days of Pentecost had shaking, either by quakes or by rushing might winds, and both had Fire. So Pentecostal Fire, though great to sing about, wasn't what made Pentecost special! The beauty and splendor of The Pentecost of Acts 2 was that they were all filled with the Holy Spirit!

God sums up these 2 days of Pentecost here in 2 Corinthians 3:6, "who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life." NKJV.

Only 1 question remains, are you filled with the Holy Spirit?

Love to all,
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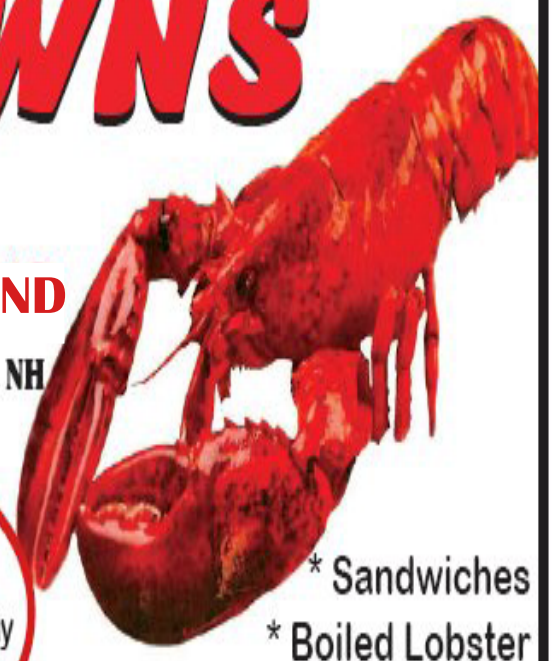

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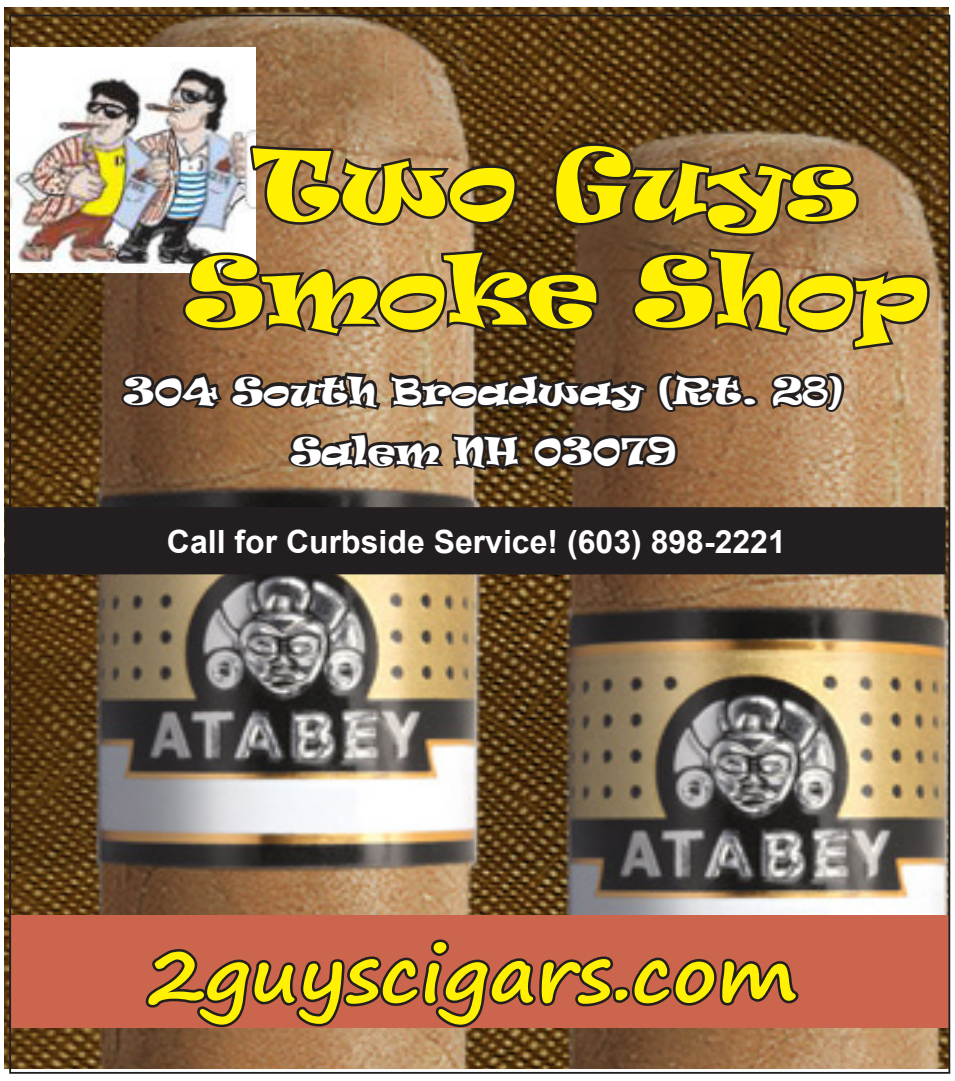

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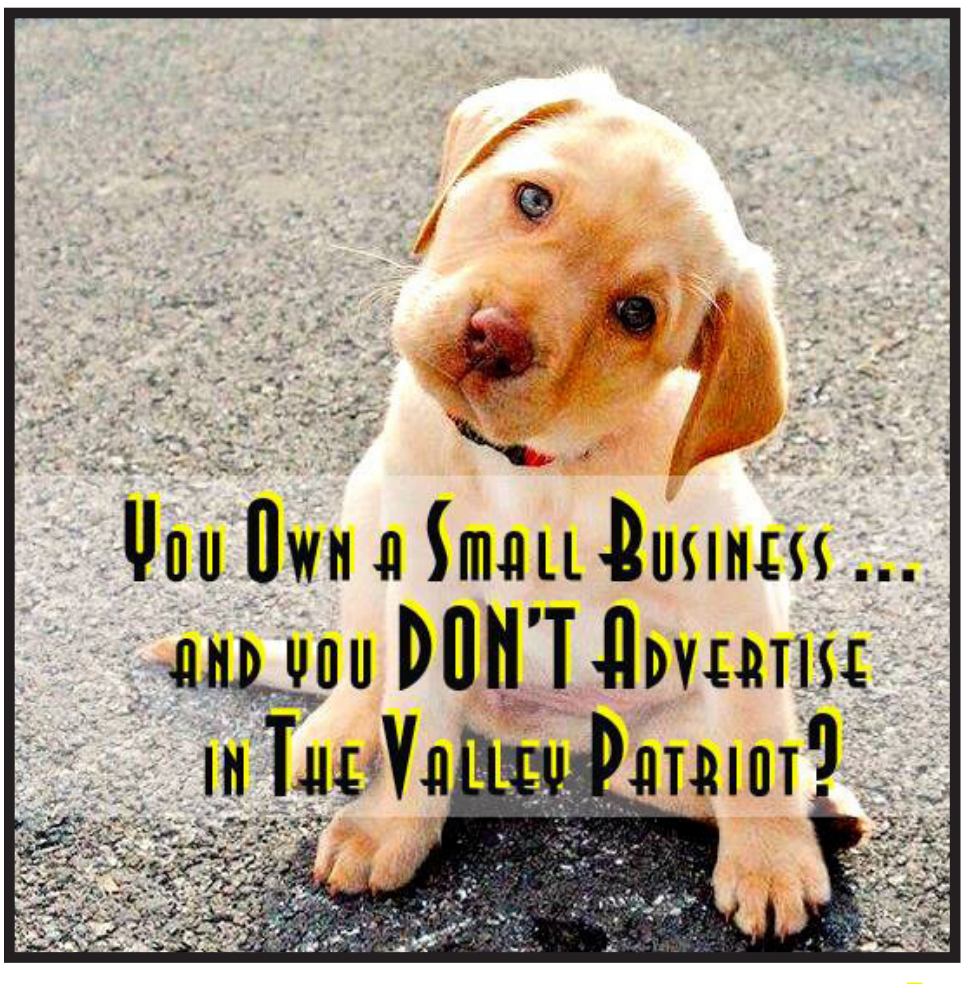

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